

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 6TH AUGUST.

THE SALARY of the Chief Justice of Ceylon is Rs. 25,000 per annum. In accepting this appointment Mr. Phear loses half the income he had as a Puisne Judge of the Bengal High Court, but the Chief Justiceship carries a Knighthood. We do not however believe that Mr. Phear cares so much for a Knighthood, but he feels much the want of work, and so we believe he has accepted the post. He likes the country of the sun and palm.

IN A NEWS-LETTER lately received from the frontier it is stated that there is a prevalent rumour at Daka that a force is about to march from Kabul to Afghani, and that Amir Muhammad Khan, son of Muhammad Shah Khan, Ghilzai, and Sardars Muhammad Akram Khan and Foz Muhammad Khan have been sent from Kabul to fortify the Khyber.

HEAVY FINES are said to be inflicted on officials holding high posts in Kabul in order to indemnify the state for the supposed embezzlement of its revenue, and those officials in their turn recoup themselves by grinding down and oppressing the people. In one instance a fine of 20 lakhs is said to have been imposed on the Governor of a Province yielding an annual revenue of 19 lakhs. Is all this true? If so the Amir must be going mad.

WE UNDERSTAND that, on the recommendation of the Government of India, the privilege of making family remittances at present conceded to mechanics and others of a similar class engaged in England, has been extended, by the Secretary of State, to mechanics and artisans who have been engaged in India for the service of Government. All such remittances are, however, to be *bona fide* for the support of families; they are to be adjusted by the rate of exchange annually fixed on by the Home Treasury; and no remittance must exceed one half the salary of the remitter, nor in any case, be more than £12 monthly.

WE HEAR that a telegraph line will shortly be erected between Tavoy and Bangkok, the cost of constructing the line from the border to the latter place being defrayed by the Siamese Government.

HOW COOLIES ARE RECRUITED. The following memorial to the Lieutenant Governor speaks for itself:

"I have been made over on the 20th instant to F. V. Harward Esq., Manager of the Kaliabar Tea Estate Assam; though in Calcutta I was promised a clerkship in the factory; but Mr. Harward like a genuine gentleman considered my circumstances and has very kindly permitted me to supervise his work.

The most astonishing feature of the matter is that though I can read and write both Bengali and a little of English, some body I believe got my name signed in the usual way of "His Mark," a thing that falls to the lot of hundreds of respectable though unfortunate class of men like myself especially the illiterate women.

It is also painful to record that the Government officer in whose hands the sacred trust of examining the coolies has been bestowed did not question or explain the matter to me but I presume it was the manager of the Depot who told me that I am bound to serve in Assam for three years. I was not taken to the Court of any Magistrate for executing the deed of agreement of which a copy with "His Mark" is here sent to the manager.

Since then I had tried to complain of this gross injustice done me; especially after I was put and packed with the coolies in the same Railway carriage but every sympathizer should share my grief and acknowledged their inability to rescue from this mean and dangerous position, that reads one's heart to think of.

My circumstances if thoroughly investigated, will bring to light naked facts from which your Honor will be able to judge of the pernicious influences which the coolie recruiters and contractors have in Calcutta under the garb of "His Mark" &c.

I am penniless in this foreign place so pray and entreat your Honor will be kind enough to release me and punish the man who is the cause of all my sufferings and who has I believe either, or ranked me with the coolies and ignored to get it at all on the agreement form numbered 24 and dated 7th April 1877. I was never asked to sign any paper nor did I do it. I belong to the most respectable Kayastha Caste next only to the Brahmin. I am an inhabitant of village Chukeshub Thanna Harripal Zilla Hooghly."

How many respectable persons are thus recruited as coolies!

MAHOMED ABDUL RAHIM, alias Moulvi Abdul Rahim resident of Duriabad, Zilla Barra Barkee, Oudh, requests us to announce for the information of tiger-hunters that "he has an admirable thing in his possession for killing tigers without fail." He should take out a patent

TUESDAY, 7TH AUGUST.

A EUROPEAN Correspondent sends us the following:

"It is a well known fact that on most of the guaranteed lines, an European is punished by dismissal for striking a native and the rule has had a very salutary effect, how then can we justify the Government for allowing so useful a rule, if it does indeed exist on state railways to fall into disuse, or on the other hand for not issuing a similar order.

No one we think will deny that some action is necessary, the feeling of the engine drivers themselves on the matter is thus set forth in the *Indian Railway Service Gazette* of 17th February 1877.

"There is an order extant on the East India Railway which menaces with dismissal any European who maltreats a native. This order emanates from the Board of Directors at home; now where is the justice of it, we should like to know? There you have a corporate body of old fogies in England dealing a death blow both at European prestige in India and justice at the same time."

There is no misinterpreting such words, they speak plainly for themselves and it is evident that we have amongst us a class of Englishmen who consider they would be unjustly treated by being restrained from striking their native subordinates nay, they even go further and assert that unless they are allowed to assault natives the prestige of the British will suffer.

It is hard to believe that such ideas can really be held by any but the most uneducated amongst the European community, and we feel sure that it is only the very meanest of Europeans in India who can have any sympathy with them, but as long as such ideas exist and are put forward in a public print professing to be the mouth-piece of a certain class of the community, and are allowed by that class to pass by unchallenged; for so long will one continue to believe that some steps should be taken by Government to protect the natives employed on State Railways from the brutality of European Drivers of a certain stamp."

AN ALLAHABAD Correspondent writes to us as follows:

"The Allahabad fish market is a public nuisance, but is there no remedy for it? The authorities will not condemn their own actions and however sickening the sight is, the people here does not remonstrate with the authorities, much less representing their grievance to Government lest, by so doing they incur their displeasure."

"The fish market is just on the public road leading from the city to the Railway station and sight and smell of the place at the very entrance of the holy city of Fyrag, sickens persons of all creeds and colors who happen to visit it."

"A part of the fish market is occupied by beef shops and we wonder how the Hindoo population here say nothing against it. Certainly most of the Hindoos here are Pragwas, Rameals, Khetres and Brahmins, who generally do not eat fish but Bengallees and Hindoostanee Lallas or Kyats do; and when beef is permitted to be sold where fish is sold for Hindoos for whom beef is forbidden, it behoves the Hindoos in general to petition higher authorities for the fish market being removed to another site somewhere near Moteegunj and thus secure food for Hindoos from being polluted by being brought to the place where beef is sold."

MESSRS. DAVID SASSOON AND Co. and the leading opium merchants of Bombay have recently presented a petition to His Excellency the Governor General in Council praying for the withdrawal of the recent notification imposing an additional duty of Rs. 50 per chest on Malwa opium. It was understood that the additional impost had been decided upon partly on general grounds of its expediency, and partly to equalise the competition between Bengal and Malwa opium. The opium merchants of Bombay complained of the unprofitable character of the trade during recent years, and the growing competition of the China-grown drug; and complained also of a fee of one rupee per chest that has been habitually levied by the Government Agent at Indore, Ujjain and Rutlam, nominally as godown rents. The Government of India has, we understand, declared its inability to take off the additional duty inasmuch as it had been imposed on Imperial grounds, and after due consideration; but has ordered an enquiry into the circumstances under which the godown fee is levied at Indore, Ujjain and Rutlam.

A RAJMEHAL Correspondent writes:

"Some four months ago a man under the disguise of a monk (or rather as a *Gosain* as he should be plainly called) came and settled himself on the bank of the Ganges at a little distance from the Court-house westward. Upwards of 3 months he passed for what he gave out to be at first, and thus by a kind of supernatural healing power which he was said to possess, he produced a very good effect on the minds of a few ignorant and simple Sonthals laboring from some sort of indisposition. This widely spread and established his reputation (among the whole body of the Sonthals, who began to draw round him in flocks with offerings in kind—milk, ghee &c., as their poor circumstance permitted. It thus passed on, when he, forming a plan of making a garden in the place he took for his abode, gave effect to his design, and by their assistance undertook the task and formed a garden with various sorts of flowers and plants. But he did not long indulge in these his wishes when his real motive came out and suspicion beginning to run against him, enquiry was made and it was proved, in several identifications that he was not the man he had described himself to be but was one of the leaders of the late Sonthal insurrection in disguise. Upon this he was arrested by the Assistant Commissioner, Rajmehal and put in jail. He is now awaiting trial. The man really

bears a great resemblance to his parent race Sonthals, in appearance (and as the people identified him) in marked habits and other private usages. But really it is a matter of wonder that being born a Sonthal he has gained so much knowledge in Sanskrit, as he pretended to know it well."

A CORRESPONDENT at Cuttack sends us the following account of the overflow of the Byturni dated the 2nd instant:

"An extraordinary flood occurred on the 13th July, the river Byturni overflowed its banks and destroyed the following villages on its N. Bank. Juggonath Porsad, Tikoria Agnapada, Dustikri, Narrah Bantasta, Jhutuna, Kaji-Patna, Berhampore Mariati besides these, 21 villages on the S side of the Byturni have suffered great loss. There was only one death. The poor victim got into a safe place, his children there came home to get some *chura* and when swimming across the *chura* swelled his limbs gave way and he sunk under its weight. The loss to the villagers would be about 5000 Rs. and to Government about Rs. 60,000, the canal and the Trunk Road have been breached in several places, the inspection bungalow at Agnapada has been levelled to the ground. The villagers have become houseless and lost more than half of their cattle and nearly all their reserved grain. The kind hearted and energetic Sub-divisional Officer Mr. Stevenson has ordered the Head Constable to prepare a statement of losses incurred by the villagers, it is hoped that the Government will come forward with its accustomed liberality and bestow some compensation upon the villagers to enable them to purchase cattle and grain specially at a time when the price of rice has risen so high as 16 seers per Re.

When I found the water rising to the floor level of my bungalow I sent word to the Head Constable Babu Shoshi Sikur Bannerjee who brought a big ferry boat for our rescue. I and three other Babus got our family in her, and tied her with a Telegraph post on the road side; we passed the anxious night with patient resignation, little hoping to see the morrow. Loud cries of lamentations were heard from the villages and the Head Constable exerted his utmost to get the villagers on the road; on the morning of the 14th instant to our great rejoicings we found ourselves safe, no end of persons were seen on the trees and tops of their huts. No danger would have been felt if the embankment on either sides of the Byturni had more space for discharge of water."

"The flood mark was a few inches more than 64 feet above the mean sea level."

MR. TALOOR SWAMY Row, Head-Clerk, Bellary, has published a comparative table exhibiting in juxtaposition numbers of sections of the new Civil Procedure Code, Act X of 1877, and of the old Code, Act VIII of 1859. It is a useful guide for reference.

WEDNESDAY, 8TH AUGUST.

THE ANNUAL REPORT on Labour Immigration into Assam for the year 1875, the submission of which to the Home Government has been unavoidably delayed, does not exhibit very satisfactory results. The death rate is represented as high, and the desertions frequent, both facts being attributed by the Local Authorities to the excessive prevalence of sickness among contract coolies when employed in opening out new gardens. In order to meet those extreme cases in which the death rate among any particular class of coolies assumes formidable proportions, we understand that it is proposed to insert a clause in Act VII, of 1873 (Bengal Code) enabling the Local Government to close a Garden in which the death rate is abnormal. This will save the delay which would necessarily occur without this provision, in calculating the percentage of deaths on the whole number of coolies employed in the Garden. The most satisfactory circumstance noted in the report is that 13,679 coolies entered into re-engagements during the year under review.

SOME CURIOUS INSTANCES of attempts to smuggle opium into Bombay, and the manner in which they were detected by the latter mentioned Police, are given by Captain Portman, their Superintendent.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Secretary of State in Council on the recommendation of the Government of India has sanctioned the addition of the following important Rules to the Civil Pension Code regarding breaks in the continuity of service:

"In the same manner, the Local Government may, upon such condition as it may in each case think fit to impose, condone a break or breaks in the continuity of services not exceeding three months in the aggregate, or one month in any one occasion provided that such break or breaks be not the result of any of the circumstances mentioned in Section 45."

A LONDON correspondent writes to the *Indian Daily News*:—"Apropos of flowers, Dr. Miergues has invented a new method of preserving them. It is simply by holding each by the end of the stem, dipping them in a vessel of paraffin, quickly withdrawing them, twirling them rapidly between the finger and thumb, and so shaking off all superfluous oil. Bouquets of flowers are said to have been thus preserved for up-

wards of a twelvemonth, without any loss either of form or colour."

THE INDIAN TRIBUNE gives the following story, subject to correction:

"A few days ago, a poor mango-seller came to the Bungalow of the District Magistrate of Etawah to sell mango. This Sahab came out of his room and asked the man prices, which were perhaps in his opinion exorbitant. The man persisted not to lower them and the Sahab got enraged. He ordered his Khansamah to beat him. And that obsequious servant belaboured the mango-seller with such good blows in the right Anglo-Indian fashion as perhaps pleased his master. The poor man, however, unable to bear this hard treatment of blows, fell down and died. The Khansamah was indicted before a Magistrate and was convicted to pay a fine of five Rs. and to undergo a simple imprisonment for a week. We call the attention of the Government to this scandalous case and solicit it to investigate the particulars of it."

We say ditto.

MR. TENNYSON'S works are said to be worth some £6,000 or £7,000 yearly to him.

THE PIONEER gives the following particulars of the unpleasant occurrence at Srinagur. It seems that at a State dinner given by the Maharajah, Lieutenant Hayley, of the 11th Hussars, and Riding Master Elliott, of the 4th Hussars behaved somewhat boisterously, and were very demonstrative in their notice of the Maharajah's band. A senior officer, who was present in full uniform, Colonel Blyth, of the 40th, having remonstrated with the officers and received a rough answer in reply, they were requested by Major Henderson, the Resident to leave Cashmere. We dare say Government will take due notice of the conduct of these officers.

THURSDAY 9TH AUGUST.

MR. EDEN'S GOVERNMENT is determined to enforce punctuality among the Judicial and Executive Officers in the Mofussil. It appears from the papers forwarded to us from the Bengal Office that stringent orders were issued in 1873 on the subject, but they hitherto remained a dead-letter. Both the Judges and Commissioners are now strictly enjoined to see that the circular dated the 8th May 1873 is strictly carried out. The hour of attendance is to be always 11 A.M. We hope the Judges and Magistrates will themselves be punctual in attendance.

A POOREE CORRESPONDENT sends us a copy of a memorial to the Lieutenant Governor detailing certain grievances of the people in connection with Police enquiries about the plunder of rice-shops and the over-crowding of pilgrims. We need not publish it, as we feel perfectly satisfied that the Lieutenant Governor will make the fullest enquiry into the matter.

WE ARE informed by our special correspondent that His Excellency the Viceroy leaves Simla on Thursday the 16th instant. His Excellency will first go to Poona where he will stay a few days. He will be accompanied by Colonel Burne C.S.I., Colonel Colley, Hon'ble G. P. Villiers and Lord William Beresford, and Sir Alexander Arbuthnot K.C.S.I. Mr. Bernard C.S.I. and Mr. Stuart Bayley C.S.I. will also accompany His Excellency.

A MEETING of the Viceroy's Legislative Council was held to-day. The Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill was passed after some discussion. Mr. Stokes obtained leave to introduce a Bill to enable District Judges of Presidency Fort St. George to suspend and remove certain ministerial officers. In postponing the Council sine die His Excellency the Viceroy announced his intention of leaving for Madras on Thursday next and returning to Simla when able to do so.

IT IS stated that their Highnesses the Maharaja Scindia and the Maharaja of Jeypore will leave for Simla after Dussarah to take part in the first Assemblage of Imperial Councillors for the purpose of determining "certain fiscal and administrative questions relating to the Native States in India."

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS gives the following particulars of the Sahabgunge Fuller case: "A certain European was discovered by some servants lurking about another European's house, and the servants told their master, who, not knowing the lurker was a friend, told the men the next time he came to catch him: this they did, but the European being fresh in the country, and not knowing what they were going to do to him, defended himself with a revolver and one man got three bullets into him, one of which has not yet been extracted. The European has been arrested, and is now at Rajmehal, pending trial."

SYED AHMED KHOULOUNSSI Effendi, the Turkish Envoy to Cabul, has arrived at Bombay. He was met by the Municipal Commissioner, the Turkish Consul, and others. A salute of fifteen guns was

fired, but no other demonstration it is said is to be made.

MR. JUSTICE ATKINSON of the Bombay High Court is evidently taking the old counsel—give judgment but no reasons. In the *Times of India* case he gave his decision without his reasons. "Not," said he, "that I am ashamed of my reasons, or that I fear the closest criticism," but that "bad reasons may be and are not unfrequently given for good conclusions, and, moreover, the best of reasons may be cavilled at by the disappointed." Bravo!

IT IS stated that the proposal made by the Indian Government to the Secretary of State, that this year's batch of Cooper's Hill Engineers should be detained and temporarily employed upon public works in England, arrived too late for action to be taken upon it. The new comers will be distributed over the State Railways. But if there is no work for these Engineers, why keep up Cooper's Hill College at all?

FRIDAY, 10TH AUGUST.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to learn that Mr. Sashia Shastri's connection with the Travancore State has ceased. The Dewan Peischar, Nanu Pillay, has taken charge of the Huzur Treasury. The Maharaja gave the retiring Dewan ten thousand rupees to enable him to build a house for himself. Mr. Sashia Shastri is a man of first-rate ability and our Government ought to utilize the services of such a man. Cannot a fitting scope be found for him in Mysore?

THE EXTENSION of the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway to Diamond Harbour via Jynggore it is believed will be undertaken not before long. The Director of State Railways has satisfied himself, the *Friend of India* is told, that the proposed line would be both lucrative and of much public benefit, and he intends to recommend the commencement of the works in the ensuing cold season.

MR. SHAMBOO CHETTY, a Madras Native Christian, has been appointed Assistant Secretary to the Government of Mysore on a salary of Rs. 1,000 per mensem.

THE JAGHIR enjoyed by Raja Sir Sahab Dyal Sing K. C. S. I. of the Punjab has been fixed in perpetuity in recognition of his loyal services to the State. Lord Lawrence is his patron. Such graceful acts by our Government go a great way in popularizing it with the Orientals, who appreciate substantial gifts when accompanied with marks of honor.

THE MAHOMEDAN COMMUNITY of Madras have lost a respected leader in Hyder Jung Bahadur, one of the oldest surviving members of the Carnatic family. He filled various public offices in the city, and was Municipal Commissioner at the time of his death. He was President of the Mahomedan Association of Madras; and his death is regretted as a loss, not only by the Carnatic family but by the Mussulman community generally.

THE TIMES OF INDIA describes a curious scene witnessed at Indore on the 29th July. Early in the morning the Maharaja Holkar, accompanied by the Maharani and all the members of the Royal family, proceeded to a village called Bungunga, about two miles distant. It was announced that no fires were to be lighted for cooking purposes, and that every one must content himself with whatever came to hand. About 15,000 people gathered together to offer up prayers for rain. When worship was over, the Maharaja took charge of a plough and tilled a portion of ground, while the Maharanee waited upon His Highness in the character of a peasant's wife, and in due time produced his daily meal from amid the folds of her cloth. "The gods were really moved by such a pathetic scene; for, immediately after, showers came down, and the crowd dispersed amidst great rejoicings!"

MUNSHI PEARY LAL seems to be making good progress in Oudh in his movement for the curtailment of marriage expenses. A meeting was held at the zillah school at Gonda on the 28th ultimo, at which every section of the community was represented, some 800 persons being present. All the talukdars, zemindars, and lumberdars had been invited. Captain Forbes, the Deputy Commissioner, was in the chair, and opened the proceedings with an inaugural speech. The proceedings were conducted throughout in Urdu. An agreement was signed by all present, and resolutions constituting committees in the different tehsils were passed.

SATURDAY, 11TH AUGUST.

A SECRETARY, on Rs. 1,000 a month, is to be appointed in connection with the management of religious endowments in the Madras Presidency, and a Brahmin official of some standing in the public service is mentioned as likely to be the first incumbent of the post.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA pays the following tribute to the memory of Col. Robinson, Director General of the Telegraph Department: "By the untimely death of this officer, the State has lost an able and zealous public servant. Colonel Robinson earned early distinction in the Punjab Campaigns, and after lengthened period of valuable service in the Survey Department, he directed with marked success during the last twelve years the constantly expanding operations of the Telegraph Department—a department which he was mainly instrumental in recognizing and raising to its present state of high efficiency."

THE SERVICES of Mr. S. G. Bayley, C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, and Political Departments, having been placed at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, Mr. H. A. Cockerell, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, officiates as Secretary to the Bengal Government, during his absence, Mr. A. Smith, Magistrate and Collector of Jessore, as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, and Mr. W. A. Page, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Nuddea, as Magistrate and Collector of Jessore.

IT IS stated that Mr. Stuart Bayley, who accompanies the Viceroy to Madras, will not return to Bengal, but will be appointed Home Secretary. Mr. Bayley fully deserves the promotion, but the gain to India will be a loss to Bengal.

DR. DUFF is engaged in writing a life of the late Dr. Wilson of Bombay. A more competent hand could not have undertaken the work.

DR. WILLIAM HUNTER, Director-General of Statistics to the Government of India, now in Scotland, has consented to compile a History of India for the use of schools in India. The request has gone from the Madras Government. Col. Malleon might well be asked by some other provincial Government to do the like job.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. A Lecture on the Abkari system in Mysore. By S. Varada Raja Iyengar, Canarese translator, Judicial Commissioner's Court, Mysore. 2. Mitra Kavya. Part I & II. By Anandachundra Mitra. 3. Modern Society. An Address in Bengali. By Anandamohun Chatterjee. 4. Nutun Byrnomala. By Rev. O. W. Bomwetsch. 5. Comparative Tables, exhibiting in juxtaposition the Nos. of Sections of the Old and New Civil Procedure Codes. By Tweloor Swamy Row, Head-clerk, Civil and Sessions Court, Bellary. 6. Arya Sanghit. 7. A Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit MSS. in the Library of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. By Rajendralala Mitra, L.L.D. 8. Helena Kavya. By Anandachundra Mitra. 9. Report of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes for 1876-77. 10. Trade and Navigation Returns of India for 1876-77. No. 3. 11. Report on the Judicial Administration (Criminal) of the Central Provinces for 1876. 12. Report on the Stamp Revenue of the Central Provinces for 1876. 13. Report on the Calcutta Medical Institutions for 1876.

WE HAVE received the Mortuary Return of the Health-Officer of Calcutta for the week ending the 6th August. The total number of deaths was 222.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 4th August.—The *Times* announces that two troopships have been ordered to be ready for sea by the 11th instant, to embark 3,000 additional troops for the Mediterranean. Stocks are buoyant, it being considered that the Turkish victory in Bulgaria will lessen the chances of foreign intervention. Greece is arming. The Staff of the Greek army and Commanders of Brigades have been appointed.

6th.—No fresh news has been received from the Seat of War in Bulgaria or Roumelia. The whole Russian Imperial Guard besides several Russian divisions have been mobilised. Most are going to Bulgaria, whilst the remainder will proceed to the Caucasus. Russian imperial Ukase also calls out 190,000 men of the Landwehr.

6th.—Osman Pacha has been reinforced and is strongly entrenched at Plevna. The Russian army is encamped fifteen miles, and the advanced guard six miles, distant from Plevna to the eastward. It is reported that the Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish army with a Turkish army corps is marching towards Tirnova. The fighting at Rasgrad has been a mere outpost affair. The Russians are bombarding Widdin. Turkish official despatch state that the Russian troops retreated in disorder after the defeat at Eski Saghra, and that Suleiman Pacha occupied the Hamboghaz Pass. Hobart Pacha has been appointed Admiral of the Turkish Fleet in the Black Sea, and has destroyed the Russian Fort at Tchamchira. The Turkish expedition to the Caucasus has been abandoned. The relations between Greece and Turkey are in a critical condition.

7th.—An official Russian despatch states that the Russian loss at Plevna was 5,000. The retreat of General Gourko into the Balkans is admitted. Three hundred Bosnian insurgents have been driven into Austrian territory, and disarmed.

7th.—After a long debate, the Commons have negatived by 139 against 77, a motion of Mr. Trevelyan's declaring it too late in the present session to sanction a Royal Warrant respecting army promotion. At a Conservative meeting the Marquis of Salisbury said that the Government desired to be strictly neutral in the present war, and hoped honorably to steer clear of difficulties without endangering peace. The Turks, before occupying the Hamboghaz Pass, occupied Kusanlik. The Turks have also occupied Selvi. Reinforcements of 15,000 men

have crossed the Armenian frontier. The Turkish right wing and centre are threatened.

8th.—The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs denies that Midhat Pacha is on a mission for the Porte. The Russians have evacuated all positions south of the Balkans except the Schipka Pass. A special Turkish Imperial Guard Camp from the Turkish reserves will be formed for the protection of Constantinople.

8th.—Sir Lewis Pelly created Military Knight Commander of the Bath. The Emperors of Germany and Austria meet at Ischl to-day. The participation of Serbia and Greece in the present war is considered certain.

10th.—Both Houses of Parliament have withdrawn the motions on the Eastern question. Government declaring the discussion would be injurious to the public interests. Lord Beaconsfield in the House of Lords has added that the policy of Government continues to be one of non-intervention so long as English interests in the East remained unaffected. The Lords have passed the second reading of the East India loan bill. Lord Salisbury has refuted the fears entertained respecting Indian finance. In yesterday's sitting of the Commons there was a debate on Mr. Grant Duff asking for an explanation as to the occupation of Quetta, the negotiation at the Peshwar conference and the change in the frontier districts. Lord George Hamilton in replying said that the apparent change in policy was a change of method, and not of principle, and that it was the endeavour of Government to maintain cordial relations with the frontier potentates. An invasion of India, he said, was improbable for many years, and any such enterprise would be hopeless in the meantime. Sir Stafford Northcote said that the policy of Government was to husband its resources, to complete the internal lines of communication, and conciliate the population by good Government.

10th.—Suleiman Pacha has received reinforcements, and will endavour to force the mountain passes, and co-operate with the Commander-in-Chief and Osman Pacha. There has been strong resistance from the Russians, and severe fighting is expected. The Turkish Commander-in-Chief is near Raschgrad, where he awaits the result of Suleiman Pacha's operations before moving forward. The Russian headquarters have been transferred to Bulgreni. The Russian Government has tried to obtain the sanction of the Austro-Hungarian Government for the passage of the Russian troops through the Servian territory. It is generally reported that the Austro-Hungarian Government has refused.

9th.—Mr. W. H. Smith, Financial Secretary of the Treasury has been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty. The Grand Duke Michael is at Alexandropol and is expected to resume the offensive in a few days. General Tseretiew will join the army of the Caucasus. The Commander of the English Mediterranean Squadron, and General Dickson have inspected the lines of Gallipoli and reported to the British Ambassador at Constantinople. The Porte has informed the British Ambassador that the Ottoman Government will complete the fortifications of Gallipoli, increase the garrison and defend it itself. According to an official Turkish despatch the Russians unsuccessfully attacked Lovatz on the 7th, were defeated and compelled to fall back with the loss of 300 killed and 600 wounded. The Turks have completely defeated the Bosnian insurgents. In the House of Commons, the Under Secretary of State for India, replying to a question, said that the Act respecting employment of Natives in the India Civil Service would be applied with every consideration for reasonable expectations to the Members of the service. Lord Salisbury has sanctioned the Indian Government arrangements to accelerate promotion in the Bombay Civil Service.

NOTICE.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., on Thursday the 16th August next, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Polarisation of Light.

Rules of Admission to Lectures of the Association.

Admission invariably by Ticket.

Honors admitted free to all Lectures. Subscribers pre-paying for the year or the month admitted free to all the lectures of the year or the month respectively.

Admission Fee for non-subscribers—Annas 8 for a single Lecture: Or Rs. 3 in advance for 12 consecutive Lectures.

Tickets to be had of the clerk at the office of the Association between 10½ A. M., and 4½ P. M., (Sundays excepted), and on the day of Lecture up to the time of Lecture.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.
Honorary Secretary.

10th August, 1877.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1877.

THE FAMINE.

ONCE more we appeal to the public on behalf of the suffering millions from the famine, particularly in the presidency of Madras. The situation is most distressing. In Bombay the prospects are cheering enough. The late rains have revived the drooping spirits there, but in Madras the rains have been scanty, and the misery is fearful. In order to convey to the reader some idea of the extent of suffering we will quote a few words of His Grace the Duke of Buckingham, which he spoke at a public meeting lately held in Madras for an appeal to England and India for charity. His Grace said: "They had entered upon a new phase of the famine, the effects of which were felt over a large part of country extending from the Kistna to Comorin. Nearly every district in this large area comprising seven or eight degrees of latitude, excepting a few narrow strips of land, felt the distress severely. Distress was extending, food supplies were decreasing, cattle had died by thousands, crops had

withered, and no words of his could adequately convey the misery that was felt in the districts. The famine in this presidency affected 18 millions of people, a large proportion of whom are very poor and dependant for food not only upon the Government, but upon the activity of the grain trade and the means available for the transport of grain. He was sorry to learn from the reports of the District officers that the people in the presidency, who were an agricultural population, were greatly depressed and it was feared that this depression would lead to their neglecting cultivation. It was the duty of the Government to prevent this as far as possible, and to see that food supplies were freely distributed."

It is not our intention now to enquire whether the Government, we did not mean of Madras, but of India did all that it ought to have done for the relief of the sufferers. Already half a million of people it is stated have died, but this we fear is much under the mark. How many wretched persons have died on outskirts of villages, in the hedges, and on the fields, which are not frequented by public officers, and therefore not likely to be reported, it is impossible to say. The truth will perhaps never be known. Again, how many more are near death's door no one can guess. And who is responsible for this terrible mortality? We do not hesitate to say Sir Richard Strachey, and vicariously Sir Richard Temple. Sir Richard of course took the cue from Sir John, and between the two the Government of Madras was practically brought to a dead-lock as regards the famine. The prospects for the next six months in Madras are said to be very gloomy. The rains have been scanty, and what is worse the poor sufferers have gone down so much in health under the half-rations rule of Sir Richard Temple, approved by the Government of India, that the majority of them can hardly stand labor. So even if the heavens be propitious, it is doubtful whether the usual breadth of land will be cultivated. But our cynical Finance Minister will probably answer that the number of mouths to feed will be less! But it is useless to discuss the past. The present is sufficiently awful to engage our attention. The Duke of Buckingham added: "It was not food alone that was needed. During the short trips which he was able to make to the districts he found the people unclothed, their houses were roofless, the thatch which covered them had been pulled down to feed starving cattle. This indeed was a very sad picture—it was one that brought home to the hearts of many the sad condition to which thousands were reduced. The many wants of the poor it was difficult to supply by means of Government organizations. In some places which he had visited there was nothing cheerful to be seen—in fact all was want and misery. The utensils of the poor ryot were sold, his crops gone, and he himself had gone to the nearest poor house. There was nothing to induce the ryot stay in the village. The wants of the people to purchase implements, cattle, clothing and thatch to cover their houses were such that it was considered necessary to ask the English public to contribute. His Grace thought that it was only necessary to set before the public in England the actual state of affairs and the condition of the people to evoke their liberal support. When the wants of the districts, larger than England, were clearly stated, when the people in England were told that prices current for grain in this Presidency were higher than was ever known before, and greater than the prices that even ruled in England in famine times, it would be sufficient to obtain support. The price of food here now was higher than it was in Bengal during the famine. Two-thirds of the presidency were suffering from famine. The wants of the districts were beyond the means of the presidency and therefore it was necessary to go to other places for help and assistance." Dr. Cornish, the humane and dauntless Sanitary Commissioner, who fought an unequal contest with Sir Richard Temple and the Government of India against the one-pound relief, but who ultimately carried the day, remarked, "the famine would leave on the hands of the Government thousands of orphan children. They must be fed, and educated, and employment in some shape must be found them. He would also appeal to

the public for sympathy and support in the great work before the officers of Government. The greatest assistance was now needed." The public can render material relief by affording means for housing the poor, for clothing them, and for maintaining the orphan children. A general movement is necessary throughout the country, and we again appeal to the Lieutenant Governor to head such a movement in Bengal. If His Honor will put himself in communication with the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades' Association, and the British Indian Association, arrangements may be easily made for combined action in the matter. We submit that no time should be lost in organizing such a movement.

We are glad to observe that Lord Lytton is going on a tour through the famine districts. This is as it should be. It is time that his Lordship should see things with his own eyes, and act upon his own unbiased judgment. It is certainly desirable to save money, but to save money at the cost of human life is the most heartless principle that a Government can adopt. It is stated that His Lordship is opposed to a general appeal to England and India for charity on behalf of the famishing millions. We can hardly believe this to be the case. Why should be there any reluctance in the matter? Can it be that the authors of the famine policy of 1877 are ashamed of their own work? Surely the silence of the Government of India can not alter facts. The day of judgment will come hereafter. In the meantime we are satisfied that the object of Lord Lytton in undertaking the tour is to strengthen and not to weaken the hands of the Government of Madras.

THE DEBATE ON THE COTTON DUTIES.

THE debate in the House of Commons on the Cotton Duties might well fill the people of India with disappointment and alarm. Member after member rose to plead the cause of Manchester, utterly regardless of the interests of the millions of this country. The Conservatives and Liberals combined to make a common cause on this question. One member, Col. Walker, said that this was not a Party question, and it was certainly not so in the usual acceptance of the phrase. It was a pocket question, in which members of both the political parties were equally interested. But it was a Party question of the worst description. Most influential capitalists had handed themselves together to fill their own pockets regardless of the interests of the millions of Her Majesty's subjects in India. It was an unholy alliance of the rich against the poor, and the strong against the weak. The subject was discussed from two stand-points, 1stly, from the stand-point of the English Manufacturer, and 2ndly, from that of the Indian Consumer. The English manufacturer argues that the duty is protective in its operation, and being therefore opposed to the principles of free-trade ought to be abolished. Now there are two classes of cotton goods, which are subject to the duty, 1stly, coarse fabrics, and 2ndly, fine fabrics. India is now independent of foreign countries in the production of coarse fabrics, and whether the duty be abolished or not, this branch of Indian industry cannot in the least be affected. So it is idle to argue that the duty on coarse goods is protective in effect. As regards fine fabrics, Manchester has practically a monopoly of this import, and the duty has therefore no prohibitory effect upon it. The import of fine fabrics has been steadily increasing, and such surely would not have been the case, if the duty had a tendency to protect Indian industry to the prejudice of Manchester. But we go further—it is all very well to talk of political economy and free-trade, but the primary object of political economy and free trade is national good, and if the nation does not suffer under the present import duties, why should they be repealed? It is highly gratifying to observe that such a master of political economy as Mr. Fawcett gave a lesson or two to the Manchester men. He said: "Frequent reference had been made in that debate to the principles of political economy; but if the House were to take abstract principles and apply them out and dry, without considering the social and political circumstances of the case, they would act more

like pedants than like politicians, and might produce an amount of discontent in India which would seriously imperil the integrity of the Empire. Statesmen must consider not merely whether a particular tax was theoretically bad, but whether it created discontent or otherwise among the people; and, looking at the question in that light, he asserted that there was not a single tax levied in India which was so satisfactory to the people of that country as the revenue raised by those import duties. The supporters of the motion of the hon. member for Manchester had not quoted one tittle of native opinion in favour of the abolition to those duties." Mr. Fawcett was quite right. If native opinion was enquired into, it would be found that the natives are to a man opposed to the repeal. Theirs is the consumer's point of view, and as consumers they do not in the least feel the pressure of the duty. In fact it comes to about an anna, per head per annum, and as the repeal of the duty could not be effected without being replaced by some other impost, it might be easily imagined whether they would prefer a new tax to this duty, which does not press upon any body. But the cat was out of the bag in the following remarks of a Lancashire manufacturer. Mr. Sidebottom said: "Being himself an extensive manufacturer of cotton goods and possessing over a thousand looms, he could state that the duty amounted to half of what was paid to the English weaver for making the cloth, and equalled a bonus of 8s. per piece to the Indian manufacturer. The English manufacturer was already sufficiently handicapped without this duty, having to pay the freight upon the raw cotton and upon the manufactured cloth, and to pay higher wages for shorter hours of labour than the Indian manufacturer did. It was not to be wondered at, then, that with these advantages the production of Indian mills was beating that of the English mill out of the market. In 1855 the first Indian cotton mill was established at Bombay, and in the present year, of 698 million yards of cotton cloth sold in the Bombay market 318 million yards were supplied by England and 380 by Indian mills. These figures revealed the very serious nature of the competition with which English manufacturers had to contend, and the advantages to which he had referred were enjoyed, not by enterprising native Indians, but by Anglo-Indian officials and by English capitalists who had taken advantage of the cheapness of labour in India to establish mills in that country." In other words the English manufacturer could not compete with the Indian manufacturer, and if so how could the Legislature help the former? The abolition of the duty cannot remedy the disadvantages, of which Mr. Sidebottom complains. We cannot understand how Manchester argues that the duty is paid by the manufacturer. An import duty from the principle of it is paid by the consumer, and if the consumer does not grumble, why should a productive source of revenue be abandoned? As Mr. Fawcett remarked, "in selecting a tax for repeal they ought to consider the advantages and disadvantages of remitting it as compared with other taxes; and, applying that rule to the present case, he said that even if, instead of having to raise 8½ millions upon loans they had a surplus of a million in the Indian Exchequer, those import duties were not the part of their fiscal system which had the first claim to consideration with a view to their remission. He hoped that when India had a surplus revenue the Government would not think simply of the trade of Lancashire, but of that which was most beneficial to the people of India themselves; and, taking into account the present position of the Salt Duties, it would in his opinion be very unwise of the House to fetter the action of the Secretary of State and to say that before he dealt with any other fiscal reforms the duties on cotton goods should be repealed. Quoting from official documents, the hon. gentleman went on to point out that great complaints were now heard both in the Indian and Chinese markets of the amount of size used in the manufacture of goods in Lancashire, adding that if the manufacturer of that country wished to maintain their supremacy, they must turn their attention to something else besides the repeal of the import duties, and that it was idle for them any more than for the maltsters of

brewers to contend that the duties came out of their pockets. (Hear, hear.)" Yes, Manchester should begin the reform at home. If she wishes to retain her hold upon the Indian market, she should be honest in her dealings. She should come with clean hands before she expects sympathy from honest men. Sir George Campbell also opposed the repeal. It would, he said, be anomalous to abolish the import and retain the export duty. Practically it came to this, that if they were to remit both, the loss to the revenue would amount to about £2,500,000. How, then, were they to make that amount good? It must be either by fresh taxation or a loan. At present there was not, as regarded the revenue a surplus, but a deficit, and Sir George "could not see by what new taxes they could supply the loss which must be the result of adopting the principle of the resolution." Already fresh taxation in the shape of provincial taxes has been imposed upon the people of particular provinces, and if these fresh taxes are intended to fill the pockets of the cotton lords of Manchester by the repeal of the duty, the moral effect of such a measure upon the people of India may be easily conceived. Mr. Laing was of the same opinion; he said, "he wished that they were in a condition, so far as India was concerned, to reduce the entire of the duties the subject of debate. A difficulty, however, arose from the depreciation of silver and other causes, and if they swept away the duties now sought to be abolished they would lose all that could be secured by that most unpopular impost the Income tax." Lord George Hamilton, while saying that the question should be viewed from the Indian point of view he veered round and contended that even from that point of view, "it was neither the interest of the producer nor the consumer that those duties should remain." We wish His Lordship had proved this. He continued: "It was asked by the hon. member for Kirkcaldy how if the import duties on cotton were repealed the loss of revenue thus incurred could be made good? Well, he could only reply that the whole of the railroads in one sense belonged to the Government of India and that if we were to reduce the Customs' duties on one article which was largely consumed, not only would the Customs revenue be benefited by the increased consumption, but we should have the advantage resulting from the additional traffic on the railways. He was therefore sanguine enough to believe that if next year there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure, so as to enable the Indian Government to deal with the cotton duties and also with the salt duties, although there might be a temporary loss of revenue there would be such an increase in the receipts from railway traffic as to compensate for that loss." Would that this were true, but could the Secretary of State lay his hand upon his heart and say that increased Railway receipts would leave a surplus of £900,000, so as to compensate the loss of revenue from the repeal of the duties? This statement was simply misleading, and we are surprised that the Under-Secretary of State should have resorted to it. Our duty is plain. The people of India ought to unite and make an appeal to Parliament. We fear the merchants of Calcutta are not likely to move in the matter, for most of them are agents of Manchester houses, and they cannot be expected to oppose the interests of their principals. In Bombay the case is different, and our countrymen should co-operate with the millowners in Bombay in laying before Parliament the real truth about the question.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR ON THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

MR. EDEN has spoken out on the new Municipal Constitution of Calcutta. It is well known that he has not been in favour of an elective system, and as he is not in the habit of mincing matters, he has seized the first opportunity to declare his views on the subject. In reviewing the last administration report of the Calcutta Municipality he says: "The elective system has been attended with precisely the results which were anticipated by the framers of the original Municipal Act for Calcutta, when they determined, after mature consideration and discussion, to reject that system as unsuited to the present condition of society

in India. Many of the ablest and most useful members of the old Municipality have not unnaturally shrunk from the disagreeable process of a public canvass—a proceeding singularly distasteful to the ideas of native gentlemen. Nearly all the European members have avoided candidature, and have also, most unfortunately for the interests of the town, shrunk from serving as nominated members with the elected candidates." For our own part we confess that, bearing in mind the heterogeneous character of the Calcutta community, we had our doubts about the success of a general elective system, and did not hesitate to say so, notwithstanding the obloquy which we incurred among a certain section of our countrymen for a candid expression of our opinion. We had suggested that the corporation should be made self-elective, and said that if this modified plan of election should succeed, its basis might be extended. But our advice was not listened to—the cry was election pure and simple, and it carried the day. Sir Richard Temple was misled—he thought that educated native opinion was on his side, but the results of the election shewed that the cry raised was a hollow one. It was of course to be expected that at the first start the bulk of the native rate-payers would not understand what was wanted, but they did not seem to care for it, and if the candidates had not moved in the matter and created as it were their own constituencies, and if Sir Stuart Hogg had not thrown his stupendous energy into the work and persuaded some of his personal friends to stand for election, we doubt whether the new machinery would have at all fitted into working order. The conduct of the Europeans was inexplicable. Their organs in the press, notably the *Indian Daily News*, loudly clamoured for election pure and simple; they would not have the modified election which we suggested; they kept up a continuous running fire upon Sir Richard Temple till he yielded, but when the time for action came they held themselves back, it was said that they did so from a personal feeling against Sir Richard Temple and Sir Stuart Hogg, but we could hardly believe that Englishmen would be swayed by petty personal considerations. The fact could not, however, be gained, not only did they as a body refuse to stand as candidates, but they even declined to vote or to be nominated by Government. The *disagreements* about canvassing, to which Mr. Eden has adverted, could not apply to their case, for in their own country they are accustomed to it, and even Duchesses are said to have kissed the children of butchers to procure votes. But they did not back over. This has been a most unfortunate incident. It has deprived the corporation of European sympathy, and consequently of a most important element of success. We feel confident that if a few of the old European Justices had come forward and entered the new corporation, both the Government and the Anglo-Indian Press would have sung in a different tune. The majority of the new Commissioners being natives, men unknown to fame and without sufficient weight, have as a matter of course failed to command the influence which the governors of the first city in Asia should.

But the system has been adopted and the Government ought to allow it a fair trial. We submit it is quite premature to pass any opinion upon the working of the new constitution. The Lieutenant-Governor has been somewhat hasty in recording his verdict. We admit that the new Commissioners individually have not done so well as we had a right to expect from the tall talk of those who cried for the elective system. We are sorry to own that with the exception of a few, who could be counted on one's fingers, the new Commissioners do not take much trouble in studying the questions laid before them. Of course we ought to make due allowance for the fact that they are new to the work, but unfortunately the majority do not show much disposition to learn or labour. Their zeal has evidently evaporated. Their attendance at Committee meetings is becoming small by degrees and beautifully less. But we are of opinion that as a body the new Commissioners have done nothing which is outrageous or obstructive to improvement. The Lieutenant-Governor says, "as was foreseen

the elections have introduced into the Municipality many clever, ambitious young men, whose chief aim is to bring themselves before the public and acquire notoriety as speakers, much to the detriment of real business." We submit with all deference that we cannot agree with His Honor upon this point. A popular assembly must, to a certain extent, be a talking assembly, and the talk does good. It is the only way to check the arbitrary proclivities of the executive. To compare great things with small, the British House of Commons consists of men of considerable intellectual powers and business habits in the United Kingdom, and yet business cannot be conducted there without a great deal of talk. Were the late Justices in this respect better than the present Commissioners, and yet who will deny that the talk of the Justices did immense good? We admit that all the Commissioners do not always speak to the point, but this may be predicated of much more august assemblies than municipal corporations. Our men are new, but we dare say they will improve with time. Rome was not built in a day, and the elective system could not be expected to be a complete success in Calcutta all at once. It is true that if the majority of the Commissioners were men with good business habits, they would have done much better than they have done, but who can say that if the Government foster the system better men may not come to the fore at the next election? In Bombay the elective system did not at first prove a success, but as Europeans of weight and influence commenced to take interest in the work, it increased in efficiency and popularity. But in Calcutta the European community are utterly indifferent to local politics. Even in the late Corporation with the exception of a few members of the Trades, the Europeans, the mercantile community especially, had held themselves aloof. The Lieutenant Governor points to the Port Commissioners as an example. In the first place His Honor forgets that the members of the Port Commissioners are paid—so are the members of the Town Council at Bombay—and we believe we might safely predict that if a fat fee followed attendance at municipal meetings, in Calcutta public spirit would not be wanting among many of our residents European or native. But let that pass. In the second place there are no conflicting interests in the Port Commission. The merchants alone are interested in its proceedings, and there is therefore every prospect of unanimity among them. Still we hear occasionally of arbitrary proceedings on the part of the Port Commissioners, from which the native traders suffer. Besides, as their proceedings are conducted with closed doors, the outside public know nothing about them, and consequently there is no public discussion about them. Publicity, however, is the greatest safeguard of the public; it would be a calamity to the town if its municipal affairs be entrusted to a Secret Committee, not amenable to public opinion. The Lieutenant-Governor recommends that business should be transacted in committee as much as possible. There are committees already in existence, and they are working fairly enough; but unfortunately the committees are sometimes ignored, and hence the collisions between the Commissioners and the executive. This was notably the case in the tank business, and the mehters' strike. With regard to the first the Committee was entirely ignored, and with regard to the second, the executive did not consult the Commissioners or the Conservancy Committee until forced to do so. We admit that if the Committee be properly utilized, there would be less friction at public meetings, and we must do Mr. Metcalfe the justice to say that ordinarily he does consult the Committees; but whenever there is an attempt to ignore or override them, there cannot but be friction. But as a rule there is generally harmony between the Commissioners and the Chairman, and this Mr. Metcalfe admitted at the last meeting of the Corporation.

We admit that there has been some acrimonious discussion about certain proceedings and remarks of the Health-Officer, but the Lieutenant Governor has said enough in his Resolution to shew that the blame does not rest with the Commissioners alone. We transcribe below

His Honor's observations on this subject. Referring to the Health-Officer's last annual report Mr. Eden says:

Mr. Eden has read this report with great interest. It displays patient research and great ability in dealing with the difficult problems of sanitation in Calcutta. Mr. Eden would have wished that the tone were more moderate and conciliatory, for he is persuaded that to make sanitation efficient in Calcutta the people of the city must be led, and not driven, into co-operation with the Sanitary Department. Dr. Payne should bear in mind that one case in which native society is induced by conviction to adopt a sanitary theory is worth hundreds of cases in which they are pressed into submitting to reforms of the benefits of which they are not satisfied. The Sanitary Officer must remember that the principles and theories which to him seem so obvious and so indisputable have not even yet received practical acceptance in many countries in a much more advanced condition of social progress than India, and that more is to be gained by patiently and gently endeavouring to establish the soundness of these theories by practical results than by hard language in respect of those who are not prepared to accept at once the conclusions at which he may have arrived after many years of hard study of the whole subject. In some of the finest cities in civilized Europe, with every appliance and convenience for sanitary improvement available, there are streets, lanes, and houses whose description, if faithfully given, would throw into the shade the vivid pictures of the filth of Calcutta so graphically drawn by Dr. Payne.

No real good is to be gained by laying before the people quarter after quarter in a formal report violent denunciations of their habits of life. What the Municipality should do is to bring within the reach of the people fresh pure water and efficient drainage, and by showing them by practical experience the beneficial results of allowing dirty water tanks to be filled in. Dr. Payne's own report bears the most conclusive evidence that the people are perfectly ready to use pure water, when they can get it, and that they are quite open to conviction in respect to the filling in of impure tanks. The people must have some water and if the Municipality do not supply them with a sufficiency of pure water, they are driven to the use of that which is impure. The blame attaches to the Municipality, not to the people, who pay water-rates, but do not get water. In describing the effect of the rainfall on the public health, Dr. Payne says:—"The great demand for good water, and the widespread use of it in private houses, led to it being stopped in hours of great need among the labouring people, who were driven back to the dirty tanks for their supply; these are the classes among whom cholera now remains." It is clear from this that a strong demand for pure water does exist among even the lowest classes of natives, and that it is only when driven back to the use of foul tanks, with the result of an outbreak of cholera. It is difficult to conceive a greater reproach to the Municipal administration than the fact that while the streets of the wealthy quarters of the town are watered with filtered water, the supply of the poor was stopped and they were driven to the use of what the Sanitary Commissioner describes as excrement and water. Dr. Payne has asserted of the water-supply by pipes that "its benefits were so keenly appreciated that the people generally, though doubtless gradually, resorted to the hydrants, which were in every neighbourhood within moderate distance." The people of the suburbs of all classes are described as "carrying hydrant water to some distance for drinking and cooking use." "The demand for pure water," he goes on to say, "has rapidly outgrown expectation and provision, and the desire to extend its benefits more widely has led to their being curtailed in quarters where at first there was no restriction. Reckless waste also on the part of the people has brought further necessary for limiting pressure as the only means of arresting it. That this limitation has worked very perniciously on the public health cannot, I fear, be doubted, for many people have been driven for personal and other ablution to the filthy stagnant pools of sewage called tanks." "To those who live beyond reach of the river, and have to labour through the day, there has been nothing better available in the evening over a large portion of the town than the poisonous contents of these tanks." Surely this is a state of things for which the Municipality, and not the rate-payers, are to blame. When people are driven to drink sewage by the neglect to supply them with water, it seems to be adding insult to injury to describe them as revelling in sewage and drinking excrement and water as a matter of taste and choice. It is just as unreasonable as it is to describe the people, in another part of the report, as being unprovided with the most ordinary means and appliances of cleanly life, and then, because their habitations and neighbourhoods are dirty, to accuse them of "preferring disease to discipline." The one thing which is established, and this is most clearly established in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor, is that the state of mortality in the town of Calcutta is most seriously affected by the insufficient supply of pure water now available to the people; and he is satisfied that it is the first duty of the Municipal Corporation to take measures to improve their supply. It is in their power to do much in this direction by keeping up the pressure on the pipes day and night and economizing the use of filtered water by substituting unfiltered water for the purpose of street-watering and sewer-flushing.

Exactly so. The Commissioners do not object to the filling up of dirty tanks, but they hold, as the Lieutenant Governor remarks, that "if the Municipality do not supply the people with a sufficiency of pure water, they are driven to the use of that which is impure." And because they entertain this opinion, and, knowing how serious it is to interfere with the water supply of a large community in a hot climate, oppose ill-judged action, they are charged with a love of filth and obstruction to improvement. But let that pass. Mr. Eden adds:

"That the people are not slow to accept sanitary reform if pressed upon them with tact, and in such a manner as to carry conviction as the result of practical teaching, is clear from the statement made by Dr. Payne at page 24 of his report—"From that time complaint has been rare and applications are now received for the filling in of

tanks in numbers far exceeding the Engineer's powers of compliance". From this it would seem that the difficulty of persuading the natives to consent to the filling in of tanks has practically been solved; and the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that there is nothing which really retards the improvement of the town so much as the long, desultory, recriminating discussions which so constantly take place at the municipal meetings; it is to remedy this, and to secure the harmonious and quiet transaction of real business by select committees, that the Chairman should endeavour to obtain the co-operation of the Municipal Commissioners. There are a sufficient number of sensible, practical, and experienced gentlemen in the Corporation to make it a matter of certainty that if irritating useless, and exciting discussions can be avoided, the work of sanitary reform will be carried out vigorously and earnestly.

We are surprised that such a clear-sighted Governor as Mr. Eden after so lucidly analysing the cause of the difference between the Commissioners and the Health-Officer on this point, should have wound up by condemning the Commissioners for indulging in what he considers "long, desultory and recriminating discussions." Could the Commissioners remain silent when the Health-Officer went on filling up tank after tank without consulting the Committee and without seeing that there was a sufficient supply of pure water to take the place of impure water? If they had done so, they would have been untrue to their trust. But we do not wish to prolong the discussion. We hope the Lieutenant Governor's Resolution will teach both parties forbearance to each other, and to let by-gones be by-gones. We know that the Commissioners have a high respect for the learning and ability of their Health-Officer; indeed, some of them, when members of the late corporation, were foremost in advocating his appointment, and we can assure him that they have not the least desire to oppose for opposition's sake. We hope both the Commissioners and the executive will take the Lieutenant Governor's advice and settle business quietly and harmoniously in Committee.

There are a few other points, which we will briefly notice. Mr. Eden says, "the Commissioners are unwilling to undertake the expense of doubling the filtered supply, but till this is done no system of sanitation for Calcutta can really be complete." But when did the Commissioners shew any unwillingness to double the water supply? No scheme has yet been laid before the Commissioners, and they had therefore no occasion of discussing the matter at all. On the contrary they have seldom allowed an opportunity to pass away without impressing upon the executive the necessity of increasing the water supply. If the executive do not take the initiative, and the initiative rests with them, the Commissioners ought not to be blamed. The same remarks apply to drainage. The Commissioners have not opposed a single proposition for the extension of drainage. In fact, they have sanctioned more money for drainage than they were required by law. As for the bustees the Lieutenant Governor remarks:

"It is now quite clear that the middle and northern wards of the town produce a rate of mortality which the Government cannot contemplate without concern; and it has been shown that the hot-beds of zymotic disease are to be found in the clusters of native huts known as bustees. The condition of these bustees has engaged the attention of the Bengal, Indian, and Home Governments for many years. Dr. Payne's report leaves no doubt of the direction in which the duty of those responsible for the well-being of the town now lies; and Mr. Eden regrets to find that no allotment has been made from municipal. Lieutenant-Governor is willing to admit that the improvement of the bustees can only be gradually undertaken, with due regard to the state of the municipal finances, and that there are some special difficulties to be overcome; but he trusts the Commissioners will see their way to some scheme for gradually and systematically dealing with a state of things which is certainly not creditable to such a Corporation as that of Calcutta. The first thing is to provide good water, and the people will not then be so anxious to cling to the filthy water, which, according to Dr. Payne, is in a great portion of the town the only supply available to them. They not unnaturally prefer bad water to no water at all. Mr. Eden believes that the proper way to dealing with these bustees is for the Municipality to set aside a certain amount of money every year, and to buy up block after block of bustee, clear it, drain it, lay it out with roads, fill in all dirty tanks and hollows, and then sell the land thus reclaimed in convenient lots for the erections of houses for the people on plans to be approved by the Municipality. The owners of these bustees are frequently not in a condition to pay for their improvement, even

though it be shown to them beyond question that the value of the land will be enormously improved by the removal of nuisances and the levelling of the land. If the matter were taken up systematically by the Municipality, they would probably find that the profit of reclamation was so certain as to warrant their raising special loans for the subject, and thus in a few years getting rid of these great sources of disease."

The Lieutenant Governor will be surprised to learn that the executive have not yet submitted a single scheme of bustee improvement, except the filling in of tanks, and when such is the case, why should the Commissioners be condemned? Mr. Eden notices the disallowance by the Commissioners of a grant for the survey of bustees. But if His Honor had enquired, he would have known that there are in the archives of the Municipal Office survey papers of we believe nineteen bustees, and until these bustees are improved no new ones can be taken in hand. Survey done long before actual work becomes old and antiquated, and the money laid out on it is consequently thrown away. We are glad to observe that the Lieutenant Governor advocates the improvement of bustees by purchase; this has been our idea all along, but our authorities would pay no attention to it. We hope to see it carried out under Mr. Eden's administration. Then Mr. Eden notices very delicately the difference of opinion as to the propriety of filling in tanks with sweepings. He gives his own opinion formed after considerable experience that the use of sweepings is not dangerous to public health, "if a layer of earth is daily laid over the sweepings." Will His Honor kindly enquire whether this is practically done by the Health-Officer—whether a layer of earth is weekly, far less daily, laid over the sweepings? The truth of the matter is that sanitary improvement is sought to be effected by the rule of thumb, and hence the people and their representatives in the corporation cry out.

MR. EDEN'S PUBLIC UTTERANCES.

MR. EDEN does not like to speak much, but whenever he does speak, he generally speaks common sense. His public utterances at Dacca deserve a more extended notice than they have yet received, and we therefore propose to notice them briefly. In laying the foundation-stone of the Northbrook Hall he said, "There was one leading feature of Lord Northbrook's administration which is social rather than political, though attended with great political results. It has always struck me as having had an immense influence for the good of the country, and yet it has not, I think, been sufficiently recognised throughout the country, though from the nature of the memorial which you have chosen to erect, it seems to me that it has been recognised at Dacca. I allude to the improved relation between Europeans and native, and the greater cordiality of feeling and mutual understanding, which undoubtedly sprang up between them during the period that Lord Northbrook held the Viceroyalty of India. It happened that when Lord Northbrook came to India, and for the great part of the time that he remained here. I was employed out of Bengal, but I came up to Calcutta every year, and I heard from my native friends all that they had to say regarding public affairs; and I think that in this way I had a better opportunity of judging of the changes that were taking place in the public mind during those years than if I had been living altogether in Bengal. It is unquestionably the case that, for some little time antecedent to Lord Northbrook's arrival, there had arisen from some cause or other a condition of coldness and restraint in the relations between Europeans and natives, and a general want of mutual confidence and good feeling, which was much deplored and regretted by thinking men of both classes. But I observed that year by year after Lord Northbrook's arrival, this state of things vanished away; and I believe that this was mainly due to the personal example of courtesy and consideration which Lord Northbrook set in all matters of communication and intercourse with natives. I know, and I can say it most confidently, that the educated native gentlemen of Bengal were much impressed and influenced by the unvarying courtesy with which he treated them, and with the calm, patient justice with which he considered all matters connected with

the rights, interests, feelings, or prejudices of natives. As I have already said, the example which he set seemed to have a most beneficial effect on those serving under him and consequently on the natives with whom they were brought in contact."

This is perfectly true, and this important feature in Lord Northbrook's career has always been acknowledged in these columns. Mr. Eden, however, added that in the present state of European and native societies there is not much room for free social intercourse between Europeans and natives. He said: "I am not one of those who believe that the time has arrived when Europeans and natives may be expected to meet in untrained social intercourse, and to enter together into the amusements of clubs and assemblies. I know too well that the habits of the two classes, their tastes, and even their hours, are so entirely different, that nothing of the sort on a general scale can be expected; and I think that it is much to be regretted that premature and untimely attempts should be made to force on a state of things which, to be really successful, must be left to time and patience to deal with. It is a reform involving greater changes in social relations and habits of thought than any reasonable man can expect to take place in a few generations." We admit the truth of these observations, but the natives do not wish to thrust themselves upon the Europeans at their social board; what they want from them is kindness, sympathy, and justice; it is because the majority of the Europeans in this country treat the natives as beings of a lower order, scarcely possessing the common human nature, they complain and fret. Mr. Eden's own example shows how natives appreciate kindness of feeling and even-handed justice. He addressed the following sensible remarks to the students of the Dacca College:

"Your college has long been known to me as only second in importance to the Presidency College. The people of Dacca, and especially the people of pergunnah Bikrampur supply professional men to every part of Bengal, and it contains more schools and scholars than any similar area in the whole of India. The students of Dacca College have always been amongst the most enterprising of the young men of Bengal; and have been amongst the first to show their desire of self-improvement, even to the extent of accepting all the disadvantages of crossing the sea in search of it. In other fields, too, they have won laurels; and they have been as successful in the cricket-ground as in the class room. In fact it has been suggested to me that the recent failure of the college to some extent in the last University examinations may be due to the excessive devotion of the students to athletic exercises; and if this was really the cause, I must confess that I should not regret the fact so keenly as perhaps I ought. It is not therefore to be wondered at the people of Dacca should be proud of their college. But I would venture to suggest to you that, to make a college or public school a real success, what is wanted is, not only success in those fields but a high tone and standard of conduct. You should make your college the training-ground of your life; and show that the good influences to which you are subjected here affect the whole tone of the society into which you pass on leaving college. Government has provided you with the most accomplished teachers that it can procure in every branch of learning; and it rests with you to show that their instruction and their example have not been thrown away. Try so to conduct yourselves that Dacca boys may become distinguished for their manly, honest bearing. Try to avoid those national faults with which your enemies are only too glad to reproach you. Meet your troubles and annoyances in a manly frank spirit; avoid litigation, and do not believe that an action at law is the proper remedy for every social misunderstanding or difference. Try to exercise a good influence over your countrymen: use your education in teaching and instructing them through the Press. Try to remove by your writings the reputation under which your vernacular Press now lies of being callous to truth. It is not clever to misrepresent and misstate every action of Government and Government officials; and it exposes the Press of this country to charges which I often see brought against it, not only in this country but also in England, of being disloyal and disaffected. We know that these apparently disloyal articles are written by men who are ignorant rather than disloyal, and who mean little of that they say, but think that scurrilous abuse and malignant calumny are a sign of wit. I say, you can do much for your country by substituting your educated pens for those of the men who now write, you may meet and discuss public questions in an enlightened and temperate spirit; and you may always be sure that Government will then readily avail itself of your assistance."

We hope those vernacular papers, for which the above remarks are intended, will take them in good part. Mr. Eden delivered the following address at the Dacca durbar:

The ceremony of to-day is the supplement of that which took place on the 1st January. On that occasion, Princes, Chiefs, and Nobles assembled from all parts of India at Delhi to celebrate the assumption by Her Majesty of the title of Empress of India. The meaning and object of that celebration were made clear in Lord Lytton's speech, with which doubtless you are all well acquainted. Without repeating what was said on that occasion, I may observe that, while the main object of Her Majesty's assumption of the title of

Empress of India was to mark publicly and emphatically the interest she takes in her Indian possessions, and the value she sets on drawing a portion of her styles and titles from those possessions, the secondary object of the Imperial Assemblage was to give native Chiefs and Princes an opportunity of displaying their loyalty, to give the Government an opportunity of publicly rewarding such loyalty, and of emphasizing the value which Her Majesty and the Government of India set on a loyal and hearty co-operation between Natives and Europeans in carrying on the administration of public business. It was in pursuance of this latter object that lists were called for from the local Governments of those native gentlemen who had been conspicuous, not only for their loyalty, but for the liberal advancement and encouragement of public objects; and while some token of Her Majesty's satisfaction was bestowed on all those who had assisted in all matters of local and municipal administration, the Imperial Government bestowed special honours on those who had specially distinguished themselves in forwarding the interests of the people by loyal assistance in times of difficulty, or by steady generosity in support of such public objects as education, dispensaries, and sanitary objects; and Lord Lytton especially expressed a hope that the memory of that day would lead to a closer administrative co-operation between Natives and Europeans in the object which all have at heart, the advancement and welfare of the people. Among the gentlemen selected for these honours are those to whom I have just had the privilege of conveying the khillats and sanads bestowed on them by the Government of India. I have mentioned some of the special acts of loyalty and liberality by which each has individually distinguished himself, and I desire now to thank them collectively for the interest they have displayed in the welfare of their fellow-subjects, and for the loyal assistance and co-operations by which they have materially lightened the difficult task of administration to the local authorities.

We have not space for more extracts. We commend the spirit in which all the addresses were conceived.

THE RIGHT THING DONE AT LAST.

WE sincerely and heartily thank Mr. Eden for doing the right at last on the subject of obstructed drainage in the fever-stricken villages. We had every confidence in his common sense and warm sympathy with the people, and we are exceedingly glad to find that in his instructions to the Divisional Commissioners he has gone to work in the right spirit. We give the circular *in extenso*:

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—All Commissioners.

I am directed to request that you will call the special attention of the District Officers and Municipal Commissioners of your division to the provisions of Act VI (B.C.) of 1873, so far as these furnish a means of improving the drainage of town and village sites.

2. It is a recognized fact that much unhealthiness is caused by obstructed drainage and consequent dampness of the sub-soil; and although the Lieutenant-Governor is not prepared to undertake the impossible task of draining at the expense of the State all the unhealthy districts of Bengal, he believes that very much may be done in the way of improvement by well-directed local effort, and without any very great expense.

3. Within the limits of regularly constituted municipalities, it is in the power of the Commissioners to effect improvements and remove obstructions, so far as their funds will allow and the provisions of the Municipal Act permit, and they have also very extensive power of coercing private owners. They should be stirred up wherever necessary, and called upon to devote special attention to this branch of their town conservancy.

4. But there may be cases even in towns to which the Municipal Act will not apply, and in which it is not proper that the cost of improvements should fall upon the rate-payers. There are also numerous villages outside municipal limits possibly suffering from the effects of obstructed drainage, and the health of a municipality may be affected by evils lying beyond its own jurisdiction. In such cases the provisions of the Embankment Act furnish a ready remedy.

5. By that Act a water-course is defined to include a line of drainage, weir, culvert, pipe, or other channel for the passage of water, whether natural or artificial. Under section 4 the Collector has power to cause to be removed or altered "any obstruction of any kind which interferes with the general drainage of any tract of land." He may construct any water-course, or effect any alteration in any public water-course, when this is required for the improvement of the health of any village. He may call upon the person in charge of any road which interferes with the drainage of any tract of land to alter such road, or to construct any water-course under or through such road; and if the person so called upon fails to obey the order, the Collector may carry out the work at his expense, so far at least as it was necessitated on account of insufficient provision having been made at the time of constructing the road for the natural drainage then existing.

6. The Act gives the Collector ample powers for carrying out any works of the above description, and for assessing the cost, where individuals are not liable, upon the estates and tenures benefited thereby.

7. There is nothing to prevent a municipality, or any other public body or individual, from moving the Collector to take action under the Act; and the Collector has always at his disposal the professional services and advice of the officers of the Public Works Department.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor, as he has already said, believes that it is by judicious local action that the evils referred to in paragraph 2 of this letter will most effectually be met; and he desires to call the special attention of all Commissioners, District Officers, and Municipalities to the remedies that already lie open to their hand.

9. At the same time, it must always be remembered that much harm may be done to individual interests, and much waste of public money may be caused, by hasty and ill-

considered action. In every case there must be careful and intelligent enquiry as a preliminary to remedial measures, and there should be a reasonable certainty of positive good as their result. The provisions of the Board's circular order No. 3 of May 1875 will also have to be borne in mind by Collectors.

This was exactly the course which Raja Degumber had suggested to Sir Richard Temple, and which we recommended in these columns, but Sir Richard wrote a "minute" and left things as they were. Of course Mr. Eden was bound to give effect to that "minute," and he appointed the Committee proposed by his predecessor. The Committee have done no good, but simply produced bad blood. We hope to review the report of the Committee in a future issue, but we would again ask the Government to publish the proceedings of the Committee and the evidence taken by them. The public cannot form a correct judgment upon the report without seeing the evidence.

Referring to the change in Sir George Campbell's opinion on the subject Raja Degumber thus wrote in his Preface to the second edition of his pamphlet:

"Sir George Campbell not only acquitted the rice-fields and jullas of participation in the generation of the epidemic fever, but even went to the length of asserting that 'in these reeking swamps the human race seems to have multiplied to a greater extent than anywhere in India—perhaps in the world' (*vide* page 82.) This is a startling admission, when we call to mind the opinion previously expressed, and the action in consequence on a most expensive scale taken by the predecessors of Sir George, (*vide* pp. 9 and 10 and 43 to 48.) This change of opinion regarding a most important aspect of the question appears to have been followed by Sir George Campbell's complete conversion to the drainage theory as enunciated in my first pamphlet; and that he did not mean it to remain a barren speculation is apparent from the fact that he availed himself of the Embankment Bill, which was before the Bengal Legislative Council in the early part of 1873, to give a practical proof of his convictions by introducing a provision in the Bill empowering the District Collectors for the first time to remove 'any obstructions of any kind which interfere with the general drainage of any tract of land' (*vide* Section 2, Act VI. of 1873.) This power of the Collector has been extended even to the removal of any obstruction which may have been offered by a Railroad. (*vide* Section 19.)

The Board of Revenue, in their circular, No. 3, dated May 1875, thus notice the section and draw the special attention of the Collectors to it: "The Act also contains a new feature in bringing under the control of the Collector, the management, improvement and alteration of water-courses in certain cases; and as there is reason to suppose that much of the unhealthiness of the portions of the country is directly due to drainage, the attention of Collectors is specially drawn to the power for good in this respect now placed in their hands."

In conclusion the Raja remarked:

I have already alluded to the provision in the Embankment Act of 1873 for the preservation of drainage channels and the circular of the Board of Revenue on the subject. But they are, I humbly submit, not sufficient. There ought to be a regular organized agency for the execution of this work, so essential to the health of the people. What is required is not large expenditure of money, but a careful, constant and minute attention to the drainage of the villages; and this attention cannot be secured, unless there be an agency whose duty it shall be to report every obstruction to drainage and to remove it wherever and whenever it may occur. This work, I think, ought to be performed by the Municipal, the Road Cess, and the Embankment establishments acting under the orders of some central authority, be it the Sanitary Commissioner or the Superintending Engineer. The work after all belongs to the domain of what is called sanitary engineering, and if the Government, through the Public Works Department, should make it a rule that the proper drainage of villages shall be maintained by the agencies I suggest, and should now and then make small contributions in aid of local funds for the execution of necessary improvements for efficient drainage, the object aimed at will, I am confident, be attained.

We are, however, disposed to think that the object will be equally attained if the Collector be made responsible for the work. We hope he will be required to submit an annual report on the subject. The Divisional Commissioners ought to be required to act in the spirit which has been incalculated upon the Presidency Commissioner in respect of the improvement of

Tolloy's Nulla to be carried out by the Suburban Municipality. In his Resolution on the last-mentioned subject His Honor says: "The Presidency Commissioner will be requested most strenuously to urge the Suburban Commissioners to do their duty in this matter. He must not rest content with reports and explanations, but must see that effective steps are taken to remedy the evil without delay." Similarly we hope that the Divisional Commissioners will "not be content with reports and explanations, but will see that effective steps are taken to remedy the evil" complained of. The people ought also to co-operate with the local authorities. They ought to point out to them the obstructions to drainage which they may find in their respective localities. We would, however, suggest that the Government should circulate a short memorandum pointing out how these obstructions are to be discovered and tested. The laws, which govern the natural drainage system of this country, have been clearly set forth in Raja Degumber Mitter's pamphlet p. 5 para 2. and p. 11. para 2. The issue of such a memorandum will obviate the mischief apprehended in the last paragraph of the circular quoted above.

CHITTAGONG.

Will Chittagong scandals never cease? A few weeks back our Chittagong correspondent reported the case of the Khas Tehsildar of Kutubdea in the district of Chittagong; we have now before us a memorial of the Tehsildar to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, and what revelations it makes! It would appear that on the 6th October 1876 the Tehsildar Kasichundra Sen was suspended by the then Officiating Collector Mr. Veasey, for delay in coming up to head-quarters in obedience to his order, for correcting a certain statement submitted by him, the delay having been occasioned as the memorialist states by his representing to the Collector the risk of leaving Kutubdea at a time when the action of the sea on the embankment had to be carefully looked after, and awaiting the Collector's order on his report. This report, which was dated the 20th September was not, however, delivered to the Collector by the man who brought it, before the 4th of October, owing to the Dusserah vacation. Mr. Veasey was not satisfied with this explanation, considered the report ante-dated, and suspended the Tehsildar, who was however ordered back after a short time to make over charge to Sub-Deputy Collector Babu Kalisunkur Sen. A defect it is stated was observed by the Sub-Deputy, but it was afterwards scored by him. As no orders had been passed by the Collector the Tehsildar applied to him for three months' leave to proceed to Benares with his wife, submitting two telegrams to show that his mother-in-law was there in her death-bed, and stating that his wife being her only surviving child her presence there was indispensably necessary. On this the Collector is said to have recorded the following orders:—"Impossible, if you go I can hold out no prospect of re-employment." The Tehsildar states that shortly after this he received a further telegram and letters from Benares informing him that his mother-in-law had died bequeathing all her property there to his son, to take charge of which his presence was necessary at Benares. Accordingly on the 15th Aghrayan he left Chittagong for Benares in the belief from the above orders that the Collector had no objection to his going, provided he gave up all hopes of re-employment. After a stay at Benares for about four months to settle his affairs, and taking out a letter of administration on behalf of his son, he returned to Chittagong on the 2nd Chyett. On return the Tehsildar heard that a warrant had been issued for his arrest by Mr. Newbery, and on the following day the 25th April appeared before Mr. Badcock accompanied by a pleader, and prayed to be released on bail, but his prayer was summarily rejected, and he was ordered to be taken to Hajut, though it was represented to the Assistant Magistrate that the defendant was not even aware of the nature of the charge or charges preferred against him, and by whom and how they had been brought, and that bail was allowed in cases of this kind. The Tehsildar then applied for copies of the

Sub-Deputy Collector's report and such other papers as the prosecutor might have filed before Mr. Badcock, but this petition was returned without orders. The Tehsildar then applied for postponement of his case till the date of the next steamer as he had engaged the services of a Barrister from Calcutta, but this petition was also returned without orders. He appealed to the Sessions Court, which was presided over by the Commissioner, to be released on bail, who, according to the memorialist, had already become acquainted with the particulars of the case. The Commissioner-Judge passed the following orders upon the application:

"I decline to interfere in this matter. The Joint-Magistrate has acted in this case I presume on some evidence and there is not time at the close of office to get an explanation or call on him to show cause. If the Joint-Magistrate has no evidence *prima facie* of the defendant's guilt he would act improperly in refusing bail; this order is therefore forwarded in original to that officer if he is acting on mere suspicion, he should, certainly release the defendant on sufficient bail."

The Tehsildar again submitted an application to the Magistrate for release on bail, who passed the following orders:

"The accused is charged with committing an offence under Section 409 I. P. Code. In refusing to take bail I have acted under Section 339 Criminal Procedure Code. The reasonable grounds are (1) the opinion of the Sub-Deputy Collector, who has been deputed to make a thorough enquiry into the alleged embezzlement, (2) the opinion of the Government pleader to the effect that after going through the papers submitted by the Sub-Deputy Collector there is a *prima facie* case against the accused (3) the endorsement of this opinion by the Collector. I have returned the petition with these notes to Babu Durga Das Das."

The Tehsildar again waited upon Mr. Lewis, the Commissioner-Judge, who however declined to interfere. We have not space for further particulars, and will therefore at once introduce the reader to the judgments of the two Magistrates, who tried the defendant on two charges each.

We give below Mr. Badcock's judgment:

The first charge of embezzling Rs. 46,678 and of filing false returns has now been gone into, I think it shows that the returns filed were not false in as much as they are like those filed by all other Khas Tehsildars who show in Col. 7, the amount paid into the Treasury and not the amount actually collected during each quarter. There is also no evidence to show that the Defendant ever had to show the amount of cash actually in his hand or that he ever did so. There is also no evidence to show how the Defendant should pay in money, whether he had to pay it daily, weekly or at one time, under these circumstances I think the charge of embezzling Rs. 46,678 has failed. There is however one specific part of this sum viz Rupees 3368-5-9, which has been attempted to be proved. The evidence on this point is that the Defendant was sent for on September 11th and required to come in with his accounts and money. He excused himself on the ground that he had to look after the Embankment but came in at last in October. On October 10th he paid in a certain amount and on October 12th a larger amount, which it is said he raised by borrowing. I think this only shows that he delayed to pay up the money due, but I do not think that any dishonest intention is proved, though no doubt there is enough to warrant departmental punishment.

The Court finds the charges of embezzling Rupees 46,678, and of filing false returns are not proved and directs that on them the Defendant be discharged.

The judgment of Mr. Sarson, who tried the other two charges, is as follows:

In proof of the first charge before me i. e., of breach of trust certain Dakhilas have been filed, they are marked y1, y2, y3, y4, y5, y6, y7, y8, R. 1 and R. 2 they are dated so far back as in 1872, and certain witnesses have been examined to prove them, but not the whole of them, because the witnesses had not come in, and the court would not grant any longer time to bring them in, as it would not have been fair to the accused who at great expense engaged the services of a Barrister from Calcutta to conduct his defence and whose stay here was limited. It would take up too much of the Court's time, were I to enter into the particulars of each one of the witnesses' examination with regard to these Dakhilas. Suffice it to say that not one of them could say who had written them or filled up the blank forms but all were positive and could swear that Kaashi Chandra Sen had signed and sealed them how their memory was or could be so fresh on this particular point is very strange and significant. The witnesses, I must say were the recipients of these very Dakhilas but the prosecution has not thought fit to bring forward any corroborative evidence in support of their testimony. After the examination of these witnesses Babu Kali Sunker Sen, Sub-Deputy-Collector, was subjected to a most rigid and searching cross-examination by the learned Counsel for the defence, and I must say, he made a great spectacle of himself. It appeared from his own admission that he had never been through the Tehsildar's Books diligently and carefully, that he had never examined the entries in them item by item, with the Dakhilas in which he had grounded his charge of embezzlement, and the result was to his great confusion that of the Dakhilas 6 and 7 were found entered in the Tehsildar's Account Books but strange to say the Sub-Deputy in the face of it still maintained his charge of embezzlement against the Tehsildar on these Dakhilas, simply because the items were not entered in some part of the book where he expected to find them. The Court has taken the trouble to go deeper into the matter and it took up the Dakhilas, which covers the largest viz., Rs. 49-12-6 out of which it is alleged, the Tehsildar had misappropriated Rs. 40-8-11 and given credit for only Rs. 9-3-7, I collected

from his accounts all the amounts brought to credit against the Taluk Samir Tahir for 123 Ms. and they made a total of Rs. 144-14-9 the exact jumma of the Taluk, but if the full amount of this Dakkhilla were credited it would make an excess payment of the sum alluded to above viz., Rs. 40-8-11. Now knowing how difficult it is to get any rent out of the Talukdars of the Kutabdeh island, is it at all likely that Idris (the man mentioned in the Dakkhilla) paid such a large sum in excess and has held his tongue for about 5 years notwithstanding that there have been no less than three local enquiries made on the island with regard to this very Tehsildar and his accounts? The first enquiry, it so happens was in the very year of this Dakkhilla viz., in 1872, by Mr. Paul Assistant Collector. He mentions in his report to the Collector that only three parties appeared before him, viz., Karimdad (whose brother Rohimdad has deposed in this case) Abdul Hamid (a cousin and co-partner of Rohimdad's and Saperali, and they denied that they had paid the Tehsildar anything though others had. Mr. Clay, the Collector, it appears, from the face of his report, was on the island on the 22nd February 1873, i. e., after the date of this Dakkhilla (12th December) and he made a record to this effect "If any have complaints to make they will no doubt come forward while I am on the island," and as nothing appears after that, I suppose, nobody did come forward to make any complaint. In 1875 the Talukdars complained again against the Tehsildar, and Mr. Veasey, Officiating Collector, went out to investigate. The decision he came to was that "the petitioners were all two years behind hand with their rent and some more. The Tehsildars office must for this reason be in their eyes an odious one, and complaints of this nature must be expected." In fact his whole decision is written in very strong language against the Talukdars and he disbelieved their allegations against the Tehsildar. Prior to Mr. Veasey's visit to the island, I find that on the 8th December 1874, the Tehsildar submitted a *Bakijai* or statements of sums due, to the Collector, saying he could not realize the balances and requesting certificates might be issued. Babu Nobia Chandra Sen Deputy Collector was deputed to make an enquiry into the nature of these balances, and his report does not show that the Talukdars made any complaints to him of overpayment, or that the Tehsildar had embezzled the rents they had previously paid him. In the face of so many and repeated enquiries it is very difficult to believe in the truth of the allegations now brought forward by the Sub-Deputy. The Counsel for the defence in his cross-examination of the Sub-Deputy and Babu Nobia Chandra Sen formerly a Mohur under the Tehsildar has brought out that there was a misunderstanding between the Sub-Deputy and the Tehsildar about boarding charges (they used to mess together) and also because the Sub-Deputy had brought women into the Cutcherry, and there is no doubt that it was after these misunderstandings that these charges were preferred by him.

The learned Counsel has urged upon the Court's consideration and notice the facts, whether the Tehsildar was such a fool as to give Dakhillas for larger sums and enter smaller ones in his accounts, when he was aware of the combination against him on the island, and also that the prosecution has failed to prove what sum the Tehsildar ought to have had in hand and what sum he had actually paid into the Treasury to constitute the charge of embezzlement. These facts are self-evident and prove the weakness of the prosecution. Further more I may state that some of the Dakhillas appear to have been tampered with and English figures appear on a few near the totals, which apparently have been inserted by somebody afterwards.

With regard to the second charge that I have to deal with viz. that of forgery, I am afraid that it is in keeping with the first. This charge depends in my opinion upon the genuineness of the Dakhillas which however, I have rejected. There are two corrections (I cannot call them erasures, as the figures have not been erased, but have been gone over or rather written over the former figures entered being altered) in Book W. these are alleged not totally with R. 1 and R. 2. They may be mere clerical corrections and I am inclined to give the accused the benefit of the doubt. The Court finds the complaint of criminal breach of trust and forgery not proved—directs the discharge of Kashi Chandra Sen.

Comments on the above are superfluous. Not one of the charges was proved against the Tehsildar, and yet he was not allowed to see his mother-in-law when on her death-bed, he was sent to *hajut* on mere suspicion, though he was known to belong to a most respectable family in the district, subjected to expense, trouble, and disgrace, and has been ultimately dismissed, while the Sub-Deputy Collector, who, says Mr. Sarson, "had never been through the Tehsildar's books diligently and carefully," and "made a spectacle of himself" in Court, has been promoted to a first grade Sub-Deputy Collectorship. The part which the Collector, who ordered the prosecution, and the Commissioner-Judge, have played in this business is edifying enough.

We have not space for our correspondent's letter. He notices a rumour that the local officers attribute the break-down of the case to the sinister influence exercised by a native officer, and that a closed door enquiry was going on against that officer. Our correspondent shews clearly how unfounded these allegations are, but we need not go into the particulars, as we feel confident that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, before whom the case is now pending, will sift it to the bottom. The whole district looks up to His Honor for redress, and we need hardly add that the innocent have nothing to fear at the hands of Mr. Eden.

THE MEETING IN HONOR OF THE LATE MAHARAJA RAMANATH TAGORE C.S.I.

THE meeting in honor of the late Maharaja Ramanath Tagore C.S.I. was successful even beyond the expectations of the promoters of the movement. In consequence of the state of the weather they did not expect a large gathering, and had therefore arranged seats in the side-room of the Town Hall where the municipal meetings are held, but before the appointed hour that room was crowded to overflowing, and the seats were therefore immediately removed to the central hall, which was crowded on all sides. The flower of Calcutta society, both European and Native, was gathered on the occasion. It was not a school-boy meeting. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and other Judges of the High Court, other high officers of the State, leading European merchants and tradesmen, leading members of the bar, the head of the Roman Catholic community of Calcutta, the American Consul General, and other representative men of other nationalities, and the leading members of the Hindu and Mahomedan communities, all assembled to offer a public and united tribute to the memory of one, whom as a speaker said they respected as a citizen and perhaps loved more as a man. Perfect unanimity prevailed at the meeting. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor opened the meeting with a graceful speech; the Hon'ble the Chief Justice moved the first Resolution with a few hearty sentences, which was seconded by Raja Degumber Mitter and supported by the Hon'ble the Maharaja Narendrakrishna, who bore their united testimony in fitting terms to the public services and private virtues of their distinguished friend. The second Resolution was moved by the Hon'ble W. F. McDonell, who eulogized the late Maharaja and quoted in support of his opinion the testimony borne by Sir George Campbell and Lord Northbrook to his worth, usefulness, and influence. Dr. Rajendralala in seconding the motion delivered a learned, eloquent, and impressive address. He was followed by Moulavi Ahmed, and Babu Grishchunder Ghose; the latter made a feeling speech in support of the motion. The third Resolution was moved by Mr. J. C. Murray, President of the Chamber of Commerce, who said that the alacrity with which representatives of all sections of the community joined the Committee shewed the high estimation in which the deceased Maharaja was held by the public. Nawab Ameer Ali Bahadur in a sweet Urdu speech seconded the motion. We give the Resolutions below:

First Resolution.

That this Meeting deeply laments the death of the Maharaja Ramanath Tagore C.S.I. and desires thus publicly to recognise the eminent services rendered by him to his country and to the State. It would place on record its sense of the loss sustained by the community in the death of one who, while distinguished by his many private virtues and by his unselfish devotion to his country's special interests, was at the same time a faithful counsellor to Government and a trusted interpreter between the Rulers and the Ruled, and it has gathered here to pay to his memory a united tribute of affectionate regard.

Second Resolution.

That subscriptions be invited for the purpose of erecting a suitable memorial of the Maharaja Ramanath Tagore C.S.I. and that the form of the memorial to be erected be hereafter decided by the Committee to be named at this meeting.

Third Resolution.

That the under-mentioned gentlemen, who have signified their assent, be invited to form a Committee for the purpose of carrying out the Resolution just passed.

The Hon'ble A. Eden C. S. I., President. The Hon'ble Sir Richard Garth Kt. The Hon'ble A. G. Macpherson. The Hon'ble W. F. McDonell. V. C. C. S. The Hon'ble H. T. Prinsep C. S. The Hon'ble S. C. Bayley C. S. The Hon'ble H. Bell C. S. Lord Ulick Browne C. S. His Grace the Archbishop W. Steins. R. B. Chapman Esq. C. S. I. Horace Cockerell Esq. C. S. C. T. Metcalfe Esq. C. S. I. Col. O. T. Burne C. S. I. The Hon'ble G. C. Paul. The Hon'ble David Cowie. The Hon'ble H. F. Brown. J. Ogilvy Esq. J. C. Murray Esq. W. P. Duff Esq. W. A. Montrieux Esq. Duncan Mackinnon Esq. General A. C. Litchfield. The Hon'ble F. Jennings. H. W. I. Wood Esq. C. J. Brookes Esq. Dr. A. J. Payne. C. E. Newcomen Esq. Dr. J. M. Coates. J. D. Bell Esq.

Chas Sanderson Esq. A. W. Croft Esq. J. B. Roberts Esq. Robert Turnbull Esq. A. St. John Carruthers Esq. Rev. Father E. Lafont. A. H. Apcar Esq. E. S. Gubboy Esq. E. D. J. Ezra Esq. Raja Degumber Mitter, C. S. I. Raja Komul Krishna. The Hon'ble the Maharaja Narendrakrishna. Raja Rajendranarain Deb Bahadur. Harendra Raja Krishna Bahadur. The Hon'ble Raja Promothonath Rai Bahadur. The Hon'ble Romesh Chunder Mitter. Rai Rajendra Mullick Bahadur. Babu Joykissen Mookerjee. Babus Doorga Churn Law, Panna Lal Seal, Debendra Mullick, Raja Shama Sunkur Roy Chowdry, Babus Khellut Chunder Ghose, Jodu Lal Mullick, Kumars Greesh Chunder Singh, Kanti Chunder Singh, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, Pundit Eswar Chunder Vidyasagara, Princes Ferokeh Shah, Rohimmuddeen, Nusseerooddeen Hyder, Mirza Jahan Kadir, Nawab Amir Ali Khan Bahadur, Nawab Ashgur Ali Delwar Jung Bahadur, C.S.I., The Hon'ble Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali, Moulvi Abdool Lutef Khan Bahadur, Manockjee Rustomjee Esq., Herjeebhoy Manockjee Rustomjee Esq., Babus Keshub Chunder Sen, Bhooover Mookerjee, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, Babu Ashutosh Mullick, The Hon'ble Issur Chunder Mitter, Babus Damudur Das Burmun, Juggodanund Mookerjee, Kally Mohun Das, Obhoy Churn Goho, Rash Behari Ghose, Moulavi Mahomed Yusuf, Babus Krishna Mohun Mullick, Romanath Law, Koonjool Banerjee, Gopeekisto Gossain, Chunderkant Mookerjee, Tariney Churn Banerjee, Norendra Nath Sen, Monomohun Ghose Esq., Ananda Mohun Bose Esq., Ameer Ali, Esq., W. C. Bonnerjee Esq., O. C. Dutt Esq.

A. Mackenzie Esq. C. S., and Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Members and Hony. Joint-Secretaries.

We hope to give a full report of the meeting in our next. We cannot however conclude without saying that it has seldom been our lot to witness such a respectable, influential and enthusiastic meeting of the two races to pay to the memory of an Indian in the language of the first resolution "a united tribute of affectionate regard."

WEATHER AND CROP REPORTS.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Simla, 6th August 1877.

Weather reports up to 5th August. From Bombay, no rain in Gujrat, showers in Akulia, Satara, from North-West, rain in Benares, Allahabad, and Agra, no rain at Jhansi, Bareilly and Almora; but weather at Jhansi still cloudy, sowing going on actively.

Simla, 7th August 1877.

Weather reports up to 6th August. Good rain at Bangalore and symptoms of favorable change of weather, though no rain at Mysore; from Central India, good rain general; from Hyderabad, no rain and clouds gathering; from Bombay, no rain in Gujrat, light showers in most other districts, rice transplantation completed in Colaba, from Madras half inch fell before 10 O'clock, rain in North Arcot, Trittani, Bellary and Kalasiri, indications of more rain in parts.

Simla 8th August 1877.

Reports up to 7th August, From Madras, rain in Madras and Cuddapah Trichinopoly, Bellary, Kurnool Vizagapatam and Ootacamund. Good rain in west part of Ootacamund. From North West heavy rain in Benares and Allahabad, slight rain Jhansi Lucknow, no rain Agra Meerut Bareilly Kumaon Sitapur Fyzabad, from Mysore light showers Bangalore and Mysore, from Bombay, slight rain in most Deccan Collectorates, Belgaum Dharwar none in Gujrat from Hyderabad no rain.

Simla 9th August 1877.

Weather Reports up to 8th August. From Madras: slight rain Madras and Kistna. From Bombay no rain of importance, any where in Gujrat prospects cause anxiety. From Mysore slight showers in districts with beneficial effect. From Hyderabad still no rain. From Central Provinces rain general. From Rajputana rain urgently needed: from North West recent fall was nearly general but was insufficient for rice, rain needed in Fyzabad where prices are rising. Assam weather seasonable, prospects good.

Simla 10th August 1877.

Weather reports up to 9th August. From North-West beneficial rain on seventh, eastward greatly needed, elsewhere no rain in Agra, Meerut, Bareilly, Kumaon, Lucknow, Sitapur, in Agra prices rising rapidly, in Meerut hot winds drying up crops. From Central Provinces rain general prospects good. From Madras rain in Godavery Kurnool South Arcot, from Central India crops near. Indore promise well and no cause for anxiety throughout Malwa but in Gwalior crops have failed for want of rain.

Simla 11th August 1877.

Weekly weather and crop report general, remarks. In Madras moderate; rain in Malabar Chingleput, Salem, Trichinopoly North-West Kurnool, Bellary, Nellore, Kistna and parts of Cuddapah, Madras and Tinnevely: very slight fall in Tanjore, South Arcot and Combaratore. General prospects somewhat improved. In Mysore also good showers and prospects improved; abundant rain in Coorg in Bombay: fair rain in South Maharashtra Country and Satara: more required in other Deccan Collectorates, except Sholapur fall slight in Khandesh and Nasik more needed, crops suffering in Konkan. In Gujrat, rainfall trifling and crops withering, also crops suffering in Hyderabad and Kurrachee, but river rising in Upper Sind, from Central Provinces good and general rain: prospects of Kharif good, from Benar prospects fair: from Central India prospects good in Malwa but rain needed in Gwalior: little rain in Rajputana. Some anxiety felt from Assam and Bengal: prospects generally good. Rain needed for rice in Pooree. From North West and Oudh, good rain eastward, but crops suffering westward especially in Meerut, fair showers in Agra, Lucknow, Fyzabad, and Kumaon: from Punjab no rain, everywhere much needed.

Weather Reports up to 10th. From Bombay no rain in Gujerat good rain in Belgaum and Dharwar, showers in Satara, Kaldagi, Sholapur and Khandeish; from Hyderabad light showers; from North West slight rain in Benares, no rain elsewhere and very little Kharif sown in Agra. From Rajputana no rain, prices rising steadily. From Central Provinces rain general, from Madras rain at Arcot and Palachi in Coimbatore, from Mysore light insufficient showers. From Central India cloudy and cool, no rain.

Simla 12th August 1877.

Reports up to 11th August. From Madras good rain in Kurnool, slight in Madras North Arcot, Vellore, Godavery and Coimbatore. From North West slight rain in Kamadan and Jhansi, none elsewhere, much wanted in Jhansi, great heat in Lucknow. From Central Provinces break in some slight showers in other districts, prospects unfavorable, from Hyderabad no change, from Bombay no rain in Gujerat, Nasick, Khandeish, showers in most Deccan. Collectorate Belgaum and Kaldagi, good rain throughout Dhamar from Mysore good rain in Coorg light and partial showers eastward with injurious high winds, from Central India no rain.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE ARE informed that Sir Edward Bayley acts as President of the Council during the Viceroy's absence. In addition to the officers named in another column Mr. Molesworth accompanies His Excellency.

WE UNDERSTAND that a Durbar will be held by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor at Belvedere to-morrow at 4-30 P. M., for the purpose of presenting the sunnuds and khilluts of the titles which were conferred by Government on several native gentlemen on the occasion of the Delhi Proclamation on the 1st January last.

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT at Simla reports another outrage on the frontier.

Simla 7th August 1877.

Mr. Moore Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak sleeping on a bed outside his house was attacked by a man with a gundassa and his cheek cut clean through receiving two other wounds he is lying seriously ill. The motive is unknown as the assailant was so roughly treated by the servants when being captured that he has been insensible ever since.

We are sorry to learn that Mr. Moore has died since.

WE HAVE received the following telegram from our special correspondent at Simla giving further particulars of the Quetta outrage:

Simla 6th August 1877.

Further news from Quetta details the circumstance which appeared to be the proximate cause of the outrage. Three camels were stolen from the British force, the thieves being hotly pursued were traced through a pass leading to some villages of the Banzai tribe of Kakar Pathans, the headmen of these villages were by established custom responsible for all stolen cattle traced to the particular pass in question, and were ordered by the Khans Officers to restore three camels to the British, or pay a compensation of three hundred rupees. This occurred immediately before the murder and assassins were proved to be Banzai Kakar Pathans.

THE REPORT of the rice-market up to last evening, which we have received from our informant, is as follows:

Stock in and about Calcutta.

Marts.	Maunds.
Beliaghata	... 6 Lacs.
Tallygunge, Chetla and Kidderpore	... 2 "
Ooltadanga	... 1 "
Calcutta	... 7 1/2 "
Afloat in boats	... 8 "
Total	... 24 "

Quotations of prices per maund:

	Rs. As.	Rs. As.
Mungh	... 3 10 to 4 0	
Ballam	... do. do	
Rashee	... 3 6 to 3 10	
Inferior Radhee	... 3 0 to 3 4	
Kazla, Khair and other inferior descriptions from Eastern Bengal	... 2 12 to 3 7	

Owing to increased demand for Madras within the last two or three days there has been a rise from 2 to 4 ans. per maund. If demand continues a further rise is apprehended, but happily supply is keeping pace with demand.

THE LIMITATION BILL has been passed into law. In moving the passing of the Bill Mr. Stokes pursued a rather novel procedure by describing the paternity of the several amendments made in the Bill. He was complimentary to all those, who made suggestions regarding the Bill. If his object was make an *amende honorable* for the wholesale attacks he had made in his codification speech, he was right. Civility costs nothing. Is it true that Mr. Stokes has received a host of angry protests from high quarters against his codification speech?

THE INDEFATIGABLE Dr. Rajendralala Mitra has favoured the public with another product of his labour. This time it is a descriptive catalogue of Sanskrit M. S.S. in the Library of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. It is a very laborious task, and we only wonder that our learned doctor could make leisure to attend to it. The catalogue comprises only grammars, and no less than 1110 M. S. S. have been noticed in it. The reader may have some idea of the richness of the Sanskrit language, when we mention that according to the list furnished by Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, no less than 713 grammars are in existence in that language.

WE HAVE perused with great interest a new primer in Bengali by the Rev. Mr. Bomwetsch. This book we may say is the product of thirty years' educational experience of this devoted missionary teacher in India. Mr. Bomwetsch is a first-rate Bengali scholar, and speaks and writes the language with the ease of one born to it. The *Burnamala* has been conceived on an altogether new plan. As the author himself says in his preface, "it is methodically arranged and divided into lessons, which not only serve as landmarks how far to go at a time, but, being progressively founded one on the other, are themselves the sure road to the desired end." Ordinarily it takes a Bengali student under the present method about three years to be able to read and write successfully, but the author undertakes to ensure him success in one year. We have carefully examined the plan on which the book has been prepared and are satisfied that it is worth a fair trial. The student will be led by easy stages, and once he traverses the road, he cannot so far as we can judge miss it. The economy of time, which the author promises, is a matter of vital importance, and if the plan succeed it will make a momentous revolution in our scheme of primary education. We would strongly commend this primer to our school authorities.

WE ARE informed by our special correspondent at Simla that last Saturday's *Gazette of India* contains a draft bill to regulate the relations between master and servant in India. We do not know what its provisions are, but we are informed that it provides for registration.

WE ARE informed that when Major Sandeman left the Khan of Khelat on his return to Quetta the other day His Highness spontaneously gave him a copy of an order which had been addressed to the Naib of Quetta. In this order, the Khan, after expressing the very great pleasure he had felt in meeting Major Sandeman, and stating that he regarded him as one of his most sincere friends and well-wishers, directed the Naib to be entirely guided by Major Sandeman's wishes and advice in every particular.

THERE WAS a gross misprint in our last issue which we have been requested to rectify. The figures given in Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's note show that the actual quantity of water consumed at the Medical College Hospital is 81 gallons per head, and not 8 gallons as our compositors made it. This has been arrived at by taking the average number of patients in the hospital to be 200 per day. There are 160 beds in the eight wards of the General Hospital, and 80 in the midwifery ward, making a total of 240. If we assume all the beds to be invariably occupied—a thing not at all likely—the average would be over 68 gallons, exclusive of what is required in the cook house—not "cooks, horses" as misprinted in our last. The average is 18 gallons more than what Dr. Mitra recommends for the community at large. We shall feel thankful if Dr. Coates, the Principal of the Medical College, will enable us to verify these figures.

MOULVI ABDUL LUTEEF has begun well as a Calcutta Magistrate. The other day he took his amla to task for volunteering opinion or prompting parties, and in a municipal case he gave a good wiggling to the Municipal inspector of water works for ignoring law and common sense in cutting off water connections. He gave a good lesson to the Suburban Police in abusing their discretion

by refusing to enlarge on bail a person charged with being drunk and incapable. An experienced officer like the Moulavi is sure to do great service to the town.

WE ENTIRELY agree with the *Englishman* in the remarks it makes on the sentence of transportation for life passed by Mr. Justice Markby on Jogendranath Newgy for murder. It would appear from the report of the case that the youth committed the murder in a fit of insanity, but he was pronounced to be sane when he was put on trial. The *Englishman* says:

All the evidence shows that the unhappy man was insane at the time he committed the murder, and had been so for sometime before as well as after. Subsequently, he recovers sufficiently to take his trial, and receives almost, if not quite, the same sentence as he would have done if he had been sane when the murder was committed. But the anomaly of the law is such that, if the prisoner had been sane when the crime was committed, and had subsequently become insane, he could not have been sentenced, because he could not have pleaded to the charge. So we see that under the law as it stands at present a sane murderer cannot be sentenced if he becomes insane before his trial; but an insane murderer can be tried and sentenced, even to death, should he subsequently recover his senses sufficiently to repeat the words "guilty," or "not guilty." This, surely, is not justice.

We concur. This is a fit subject for the exercise of the prerogative of mercy by the Crown.

THE SUPPLEMENT to the *Calcutta Gazette* bids fair to become a most interesting journal, if the Government condescend to publish every week such readable and clever papers as are contained in the last number of the *Gazette*. We have noticed separately the Circular to the Divisional Commissioners on the fever question, and the Resolution of the Lieutenant Governor on the Calcutta Municipality. The Resolution on the report of the Health-Officer of the Port of Calcutta is thoroughly practical. The Resolution on the report of the Medical Institutions of Calcutta and its Suburbs throws some light on cholera deaths. We give the following statement of these deaths:

Years.	Treated.	Died.	Died per mille.
1868	1,224	563	461
1869	1,144	553	487
1870	605	258	426
1871	255	112	439
1872	448	217	414
1873	492	264	536
1874	666	339	509
1875	787	405	515
1876	740	399	539

Now, 1868 and 1869 were exceptional years as cholera then prevailed almost epidemically; but disease and death have been increasing since 1872, though the people generally use filtered water for drink. So good water is not necessarily a safeguard against cholera. There were 136 cases of cholera in the shipping in 1876, against 110 in 1875. Dr. Beatson does not, we read, "support the theory that the prevalence of this disease on the river-side is principally attributable to the discharge of Fort sewage into the river, and to emanations from the unembanked foreshore." In other words according to the highest medical officer of the department foul water is not necessarily the cause of cholera, though the Health-Officer is of different opinion. In his Resolution on the Report of the Calcutta Small Cause Court the Lieutenant Governor concurs with the Judges that the decrease of suits of small value in the Court is probably due to the ruling of the High Court that huts are not movable property. "This ruling," His Honor remarks, "removed from the operation of the law an important item of security theretofore tendered by debtors, and the result was a falling off in the extent of the credit allowed them. The full effect of the decision in question was not observed until the beginning of the past year, when limitation began to bar the institution of suits brought on transactions which had been entered into on the faith of the debtor possessing a tiled hut." The law ought to be amended on this point. The Lieutenant Governor fully approves of the exclusion of the mooktears or suit-brokers from the Court. The next paper is a

letter acknowledging the liberality of Babus Punna Lal and Durga Persad, heirs of Chuttolal, who have contributed a lakh of rupees toward the erection of a bathing ghat on the river-side. Then follows a valuable memorandum on the stock of rice in Calcutta, which is accompanied with an abstract of reports on district stocks of rice in Bengal received up to the 7th instant.

WE ARE sorry to read the following remarks in the Resolution of the Lieutenant Governor on the Administration Report of the Calcutta Municipality:

"It appears that 17,355 municipal cases were disposed of by Justices sitting at the police-office. The Justices who interested themselves most in this duty were Baboo Umesh Chunder Dutt, Moulvie Kubeer-uddeen Ahmed, Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee, and Baboo Khelat Chunder Ghose. The Lieutenant-Governor cannot consider that the result of the trials was satisfactory, or such as is likely to prevent a recurrence of offences against the law. Only 167 persons out of 18,125 were acquitted, yet the total amount of the fines inflicted was only Rs. 9,772. No less than 3,364 persons were discharged with a warning, and 668 were discharged on payment of the fee which they had sought to evade. Mr. Eden is inclined to consider this leniency somewhat ill-judged."

We are afraid that the Lieutenant-Governor has recorded the above remarks under a misconception of the real nature of these municipal cases. In the first place the figures have not been correctly analyzed. There were altogether 18,125 cases, of which 10,505 were adjudicated on account of absence of parties and other causes, 3,364 cases, in which parties were warned and discharged, and 3,421 cases in which fines were imposed. The total amount of fines was Rs. 9,772, which was a little less than Rs. 3 per head, and yet the Lieutenant Governor considers this "ill-judged leniency." Fines in municipal cases ought to be light, for to quote His Honor the people ought to be gradually "led and not driven" to the observance of sanitary rules. As for the large number of cases in which the parties were warned and discharged, it needs be borne in mind that they were mostly license cases in which the defendants did not exactly break any sanitary law, but were simply late in paying in their dues. Surely in such cases they ought to be let off with a warning for the first offence, but if any of them should persist in putting off payment, they should be then visited with fines. The remarks of the Lieutenant Governor on this point we fear will have a most mischievous effect. Already there are Honorary Magistrates who are fond of imposing heavy fines, and they will now find a good excuse in indulging in their cruel proclivity. The result will be that the poor will suffer.

DR. COATES' REPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—In the beginning of Dr. R. L. Mitra's letter he, inadvertently I am sure, includes me among those whose "acerbity of temper and ill-feeling" have not hurt him. I have found him by far the most learned, independent and conscientious of his countrymen, and with his wisdom there is a simplicity of manner and a warmth of feeling, which adds affection to respect. May he live and flourish till I think evil of him.

He is not perfection for all this, and I naively admit he would be very much nearer it if he only thought as I do on the causes and prevention of Cholera in Bengal.

Is not the part of his statement about tank-filling "too high-colored and transcendental to be correct," viz.—that they consist of offal &c., with dead cats and decapitated dogs?

It is quite possible that a dead carcase may be thrown into a tank, but it would be against very strict orders, and the cartmen would be heavily fined if they were discovered doing so. Moreover, there are carts kept for the removal of all dead animals separate and distinct from those used for the conveyance of the street sweepings. The best precaution that the two should not go together.

I need not tell any body that I would object to having my tank filled with the cat and dog compost, and that I should be any thing but right-minded if I did not as strongly protest against any other's tank being so. But if the statement be correct and if death would result from one's proximity to such tankfills, has any one yet traced the pythogenic deaths thus occasioned or has the Health-Officer managed to conceal

them not only from the public but also from the Commissioners in whose Wards tanks have already been filled in?

In the matter of water the learned Doctor with his carefully quoted numbers has established beyond all further dispute or question that there is far more than enough streaming past us in the sacred Hooghly to supply all our wants and those of all our neighbours as well I trust those with him who have hitherto fought against foul tank-filling on the ground that it would leave "no water for the people" will be equally satisfied with his proofs and will cease to use such an argument in future. If every well and tank were filled in there would be a very great inconvenience to very many in having to go to the hydrants or the Hooghly for their water; but even then there would be "no real water famine." But every well and tank is not to be filled in. I should as loudly protest as any other against such a proceeding. Our well kept tanks with raised borders, shady bushes, railed off against cattle and kept from surface ditch and drain contaminations are as oases in our desert of houses, cool, pleasant, healthy and really very beautiful. The filling in of such a tank has never been mooted in my hearing. It has only been where foul tanks and cholera are found to exist together and to be in the relationship of cause and effect that tanks or holes as some of them have been termed are filled in at all. Even in this case they are filled in only when inconvenience is not felt or expressed by the people in the neighbourhood. This fact was well brought out at our last meeting. The Chairman in visiting certain wells complained of as injurious found that some of these would cause a hardship to the people and he left them as they were. This is what we would expect of a solid practical man not moved by passion but by deliberate judgment, not blindly carrying out remedies urgent though they appear without a personal inspection and an inquiry. Long may our much suffering poor be under such careful guardianship.

As to impure water of wells not being as injurious as that of tanks because they have well heads to protect them, no one could put the question more aptly than the learned Doctor himself. He writes: "But sunk in a soft porous alluvial soil no well in the Gangetic delta can be good; the infiltration of drainage water through the soil within a few feet of the surface must always taint the water and in thickly peopled towns, which have been aptly described by Buckle as the 'graves of mankind,' where the soil is more or less saturated with sewage and filth of various kinds the contamination is greatly intensified."

Let this grand sentence be my own and every other sanitarian's defence who would close a well or tank that is so contaminated.

I wish I could subscribe to the statement that such wells and tanks are not drunk but only bathed in by the people—would that it were so! Our loud cries would not be uttered so sadly and so hopelessly as at present when we find the people dying from the internal use of such water.

I can give many instances of milk mixed with decomposing water giving cholera. Dr. French in the harbour here and I elsewhere have traced it out to a calamity.

As to hypodermic injections of cholera excreta not being followed by an attack of cholera I showed this as my own experience at the last Municipal meeting. Suppose the cholera virus to be decomposing organic matters in some form and subject to some changes we should expect like results to follow. I strove to show at our last meeting how organic matters washed into tanks decomposed more or less rapidly according to circumstances till they were destroyed either by being resolved into their elementary principles or by entering into new relationships with other organised body animal or vegetable by contributing to this growth and support. Experiments with Cholera excreta quite accord with this view. Dr. Sanderson gave excreta one day old to animals and 11 percent died, with 2 days old excreta 36 percent died, with 3 days old all died, with 4 days old 71 percent died, with that kept 5 days 40 percent ended totally and older matters gave no mortality whatever. So of our tanks suddenly receiving a more or less large amount of organic matter. The water is injurious only during process of decomposition gradually rising to a culminating point as fermentation does and gradually ceasing till it becomes quite innocuous, and just in this ratio is the course and intensity of the Cholera attacks.

If there be a doubt about this I appeal most earnestly to the countrymen of the sufferers that the benefit of the doubt be given to the sick and dying and that such contaminated well and tanks be de-watered at once and either be protected against recurring impurities or be filled up entirely.

Would that I had had my learned opponent with me in many of my inquiries and when he found that soil and air and food and famine &c., &c., failed as constant causes having constant effects, and when the

water theory not only held its own but grew and grew till conviction became unshakable, I am sure I should have had the old man eloquent in demonstrating the connection and pressing the remedy far beyond any thing I can pretend to. I can but regret that one with his powers and his influence are not with me but against in this matter.

I would ere I close revert to the saving of the good water we have at present among us. There is not a house or compound that I visit and there is not a man I speak to but acknowledges that our filtered water is wasted not in quarts but in gallons. If two or ten gallons per diem were saved in every house supplied with it and I incline to the latter number how much farther might our water go. Let us put self-acting stop cocks or compel their adoption in every house and let us send in the water thus saved to houses which urgently need it and especially to portions of the town where filthy tanks most prevail.

J. M. COATES.

The 12th August, 1877.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	As.	P.
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ERRATA.

Read Baboo Soorjo Coomar Ghose, Mahesh 1-4	
in lieu of.....	1 6 0
" " Rajkrishto Mookerjee, Durbhanga	
6-10 in lieu of.....	7 10 0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—August 8, 1877.

GENERAL.—The 17th July 1877.—Mr. G. L. T. Harris, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 29 Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

The 1st August 1877.—Mr. G. N. Barlow, C.S.I., Officiating Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, is allowed leave for two months, with effect from the 1st September next, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, First Special Commissioner under the Chota Nagpore Tenures' Act, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd September next.

Moulvi Mahomed Subhan Hyder, Third Special Commissioner under the Chota Nagpore Tenures' Act, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the office of the First Special Commissioner during the absence, on leave of Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, or until further orders.

Mr. T. Norman, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Balasore, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st September 1877, or from any date within one month of that date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. H. M. Gun, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. Norman, or until further orders.

The orders of the 7th July last, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 18th idem, appointing Baboo Uma Churn Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, to have charge of the Arraerah division of the Purneah district, are cancelled.

Mr. G. Toynbee, on special duty, is appointed to officiate temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of Patna until further orders.

Mr. W. Wavell, Magistrate and Collector, Moorshedabad, on furlough, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Bogra.

The 2nd August 1877.—In supersession of orders of the 18th July 1877, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 25th idem, Baboo Hem Chunder Kerr, Deputy Magistrate, and Deputy Collector, 24 Pergunnahs, is transferred to the Sudder Station of Shahabad.

Baboo Nobin Chunder Mitter, temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is transferred to Chupra, in the district of Sarun.

The 3rd August 1877.—Mr. E. H. Whinfield, Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is allowed furlough for fifteen months and twenty-three days, under Section 12 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 17th October next, together with subsidiary leave from the 7th idem.

Mr. B. Wood, Settlement Officer, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed subsidiary leave from the 16th to the 21st July last, under Section 24, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. J. C. Price, Officiating Settlement Officer, Midnapore, is allowed leave for forty-eight days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 14th instant.

The 4th August 1877.—Mr. F. W. Barlock, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Backergunge, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collectors, vice Mr. C. D. C. Winter, on leave.

Mr. F. H. Harding, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Second Grade, Dacca, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. M. Tobin, or until further orders.

The 6th August 1877.—Mr. W. S. Wells, Magistrate and Collector of Shahabad, is appointed to officiate as Commissioner of the Bhagnapore Division during the absence, on leave, of Mr. G. N. Barlow, C.S.I., or until further orders.

Mr. C. A. Wilkins, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Shahabad, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of that district during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. W. S. Wells, or until further orders.

Mr. C. C. Stevens, Magistrate and Collector of Nuddea, is appointed to officiate in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, vice Mr. W. S. Wells, on deputation.

Mr. A. P. MacDonnell, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Durbhunga, is appointed to officiate in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors vice Mr. C. C. Stevens.

Mr. C. M. W. Brett, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Second Grade, Serajgunge, Pubna, is appointed to officiate in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, vice Mr. C. A. Wilkins.

Mr. H. Farier, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jajpore, Cuttack, is appointed to officiate as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade vice Mr. C. M. W. Brett.

The services of Mr. S. C. Bayley, C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial and Political Departments, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

Mr. H. A. Cockerell, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, is appointed to officiate as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial and Political Departments, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. S. C. Bayley, C.S.I., or until further orders.

Mr. A. Smith, Magistrate and Collector of Jessore, is appointed to officiate as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. A. Cockerell, or until further orders.

Mr. W. H. Page, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Jessore during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. A. Smith, or until further orders.

Mr. D. R. Lyall, Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is appointed to officiate in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, vice Mr. A. Smith, on deputation.

Mr. G. J. S. Hodgkinson, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Moorshedabad, is appointed to officiate in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, vice Mr. D. R. Lyall.

Mr. H. Savage, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Raneezunge, Burdwan, is appointed to officiate in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, vice Mr. W. H. Page.

Mr. J. D. Gael, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rampore Hut, Moorshedabad, is appointed to officiate as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, vice Mr. H. Savage.

Advertisements.

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Practice of Medicine ... at Rs. 10 postage As. 10
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By Dr. H. N. Banerjee. To be had of Baboo Ram Narayan Banerjee (post free). Kundola Via Saintia Post Office and at the Hindu Hostel, Calcutta.

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NOTICE.

G. Haase, M.D., oculist at No. 3, Chouranghee Lane, from 9½ to 10½ A. M., and from 3 to 5 P. M. For the indigent at No. 11, Esplanade Row from 7½ to 9 A. M.

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NOTICE.

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Earthwork	Rs. 39,588
Masonry Bridges	19,908
Salwood planted Bridges, 10 }	28,420
foot Road way	
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All information, about the form and conditions of Tender can be obtained from the undersigned. Tenders will be received up to the 19th August and opened on the following day.

W. FERNIL, C. E.,
District Engineer.

Purneah the 2nd August 1877.

MOUROSEE CHUK-DAREE SETTLEMENT.

Will be made of two blocks of land aggregate area about 2,000 beegahs, being the south-eastern portion of my Zemindary Lot Abad Darrya. For terms and particulars, apply to

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NOTICE

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to an order of the High Court in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction made on the 8th day of February last in suit No. 501 of 1874 [wherein Noneyemhun Banerjee is plaintiff and Balgobing Burmoun and Sreemutty Comulmonee Dassees are Defendants] by the Registrar of the said Court at his sale room in the Court House on Saturday the 18th day of August next at the hour of 12 O'Clock in the noon the following valuable property.

All that two storied messuage or dwelling house together with the piece or parcel of land thereunto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation one Biggah and 12 Cottahs more or less situate lying and being at and numbered 4 Chowringhee Lane in the said Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded in the manner following: That is to say on the North and South by the houses and property No. 5 and 5 belonging to the estate of the late Babu Radhahmadhub Banerjee. On the East by the public lane called Chowringhee Lane and on the West by a Tank commonly called or known the Jangree Tallaw.

The abstract of title and the conditions of sale may be seen at the Office of the Registrar High Court Original Side and at the Office of Gonesh Chunder Chunder on any day before the sale; and will be produced at the sale.

G. C. Chunder } (Sd.) R. BELCHAMBERS.
Defendant's Attorney. }
High Court Original Side, } Registrar.
The 10th July 1877. }

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Wednesday is reserved for members and on Sunday the rate is eight annas.

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Yours truly,
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40 Sorts vegetables including 9 kinds of Cabbages, Beet roots, Carrots, Turnips, Peas, &c., seeds, being 10 sorts, more than the last year at Rs. 5 per packet.

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The demand for seeds, this year is, unusually great and it is, therefore hoped to increase their prices, from August next, and the packings, charged to the customers. There will be no packing charge should every remittance be made.

Printed list of plants may be obtained on application to the undersigned with one anna postage stamps.

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